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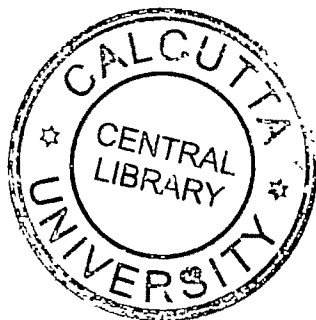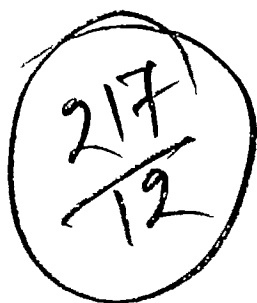**University of Calcutta**

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Editorial

The members of the Editorial Board are grateful to the authorities of the University of Calcutta for giving permission and providing financial assistance for the publication of the Volume 18 of the Calcutta University Journal of Information Studies (CUJIS) of the Department of Library and Information Science, University of Calcutta. CUJIS is a peer reviewed and UGC enlisted research journal which provides a platform for the researchers, academicians, professionals, practitioners and students to impart and share knowledge in the form of good quality empirical and theoretical research papers, case studies, literature reviews etc. Due to some technical reasons we are unable to consider many manuscripts submitted for publication. Here in this issue the areas of the articles on Information Need, Weavers Community, Dhimal Community, Public Libraries, Electronic Resources, Health Librarian etc. have been considered and presented for publication.

In this organ of the Department, the important facts and activities are to be mentioned which occurred during the last academic years. During 2016-17, the Department organized one National Seminar entitled "Library and Information Science Profession and professional Ethics" on November 11, 2016. The Department also organized 2nd Prabir Roychawdhury & Amita Roychowdhury Endowment Lecture on the topic "Public Librarianship in India in the Path of Transformation" on September 7, 2016 and 7 Days Short Term Course on "Open Knowledge and Ethics" during January 25-31, 2017. Five-Days INFLIBNET Regional Training Programme on Library Automation (IRTPLA) also was organized during 28th March to 1st April, 2017.

It is to be noted that as a part of expanded activities of the Department a decorated Computer laboratory has been prepared in the 8th Floor of the Centenary Building, where a number of cultural programmes, workshops and classes were being organized by the Department. The Department is acknowledging the co-operation of the authorities in this regard. For the research oriented programmes, a portion of the Seventh floor of the Centenary Building will be utilized by the Department very soon.

It is important to mention that a 3-Year BA / B.Sc (Hons.) in Library and Information Studies course has been introduced in the Department. This is a unique course in Indian Library and Information Science scenario and the University of Calcutta got the approval of the UGC for starting the Course. Moreover, instead of truncated BLIS and MLIS Course, 2-Year Integrated B. Lib. I. Sc. — M. Lib. I. Sc. Course also has to be started in the Department. Both the courses were approved by the UGC. These two Courses have added the new dimensions in the field of Library and Information Science. The authority has decided that initially this 3-Year BA / B.Sc (Hons.) in Library and Information Studies Curse will run in the Department of Library and Information Science following the rules of PG Faculty of Studies instead of UG Faculties and in near future, this course will be run by the affiliated Colleges. The other course i,e. 2-Year Integrated B. Lib. I. Sc. — M. Lib. I. Sc will be run by the Department of Library and Information Science following the usual rules of Faculty Council of PG Studies.

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Prof. Arabinda Maity
Honorary Executive Editor

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CONTENTS

A Study on the Information Need of Weavers' Community at Sualkuchi, Assam

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Abstract

In an information society, information and knowledge about information sources plays a key factor in survival of a being. The information need of any community may be determined through careful speculative evaluation of the community. The socio-economic condition of the community can be judged by knowing its people, their characteristics, economic status, occupation and social cultures aspects. The weaving community of Sualkuchi mainly needs information about their professional matters and related issues. This paper takes an attempt to understand the major focal points of the information needs of the weaving community of Madhya Sualkuchi community of Assam such as their people, their role, characteristic features, economic activity and occupational pattern, nature of social and cultural life and other usual indicators of their information necessity. This paper concentrates not only on the information needs but also on their extent of access and exposure to information in terms of their profession, education and social welfare being among the weaving community. The study is mainly based on survey methods mostly field survey with the help of questionnaire and personal interview.

Keywords: *Information need, Weavers' Community, Sualkuchi.*

1. Introduction

In the past few decades, the world around us has changed drastically, and it is still changing in a rapid pace. Especially with the advent of Information and Communication Technology and its continuous developments, some new dimensions of human lifestyle manifested automatically. In this changed

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scenario the information needs of the common people became complex than it was ever before. The process of information generation, and dissemination also undergoing through a line of changes and the availability of information has divided this world into two groups that is 'information rich' and 'information poor'. This is very evident from the clear differentiation between these two clusters of people and it can be said that most of the people belonged to the second cluster. This group is facing a lot of problems regarding information access and other social mechanisms. They don't get in touch with the proper integration and manipulation of information significantly. As they don't get that competitive advantage by using information in a productive and creative way, we can say that while a one group of people can be identified as entering a new phase of society, the other one is leading to the formulation of a disadvantaged group in terms of their socio-economic status. It is known to all that the proper information plays pivotal, role for the survival and development of any community in this world.

It becomes imperative to say that there is always information requirement among the community people anywhere and everywhere in the world. Therefore community information is very much significant to enable people to know about their fundamental rights and to overcome the basic risks of deprivation. The information need of any community may be ascertained through appraisal of the community. The picture of socio-economic condition of the community can be determined by knowing of its people, their characteristics, economic status, occupation and social cultures aspects.

Here in this paper an attempt has been made to derive the major areas of the information needs of this weaving community at Sualkuchi such as their people, their role, characteristic features, economic activity and occupational pattern, nature of social and cultural life and other inevitable indicators of their information necessity.

2. Objectives of the Study
The objectives of the study are as follows:
   a. To assess the socio-economic condition of the inhabitants who are engaged in weaving in the Madhya Sualkuchi Block.
   b. To find out the information needs and their extent of access and exposure to information in terms of their profession among this artisans community.
   c. To identify the social awareness of the weavers community in terms of the existing infrastructural facilities such as professional organisation, library, bank and non-government centres and offices.
   d. To examine the social-welfare measures adopted by the government and non-government organisations.
   e. To draw a conclusion based on the findings and suggest measures for socio-economic development of this artisans community.

3. Review of Literatures

Chakrabarti and Basu (1997) presented an overview of tribal communities present in India, their information needs and their sources of information in their community. It also emphasized on the role of libraries in the development of tribal community.

Chattopadhyay and Chakrabarti (2003) observed the information needs of Solapith (Malakar) community and examined the effect of information obtained from information centers like public and rural library. The study also dealt with the needs of educational information for their professional development.

Baishya (2003) described a brief account on silk industry of Assam in the sualkuchi cluster. He covered various important factors related to weavers as well as weaving of silk. The number of decade wise increase of silk looms, raw material consumption, basic products manufactured, fabric production in the sualskuchi cluster etc covered in the paper. The author also identified the problems being faced by the weavers of this area. Along with this some basic information given like classification of weavers, family background, annual income, investment in looms etc.

Chakrabarti (2005) identified information needs of Dhibar Community of Pakhirala and Malopara specially relating to their economic aspect, education, health and occupation. He assessed the extent of access and exposure of information and evaluated the activities and effectiveness of community information service on the basis of their needs.

Chakrabarti (2006) described that the socio-economic development of any community, engaged in a specific occupation, largely depends upon the provision of occupational information and their access to it. It also denoted that rural artisans were being deprived in society due to poor physical and information infrastructure in their region. It attempted to determine and identify the information seeking behaviour of Solapith community in a rural region of Burdwan district of West Bengal.

Chakrabarti and Kundu (2006) stated that most of the people engaged in cottage industries were very much depends on their traditional methods to gather their required information. They strongly desire to have an information centre or rural information centre through hardly have sufficient time. The study also had found that illiteracy was one of the obstacles for collecting their needed information.

Chakrabarti and others (2008) identified the information need of the Dukpa community of Lepcha-kha who were basically non-users of the formal information system. It revealed information needs of the villagers with their traditional information needs.

Chakrabarti and others (2009) described a vivid picture about the different aspects of information need of Mech community in Jalpaiguri district, west Bengal. This paper presented a clear and graphic description about the peoples belonging to the Mech community.

4. Community Profile

4.1. Sualkuchi

4.1.1. Geographical location: Sualkuchi is known as the Manchester of North East India, situated on the North bank of the river Brahmaputra at a distance of 32 km west of Guwahati. Sualkuchi block is under the Guwahati subdivision of Kamrup district of Assam, covering approximately 90.74 square kilometers as per 2001 census. There are total eight Grampanchayats under this block area in which 70,962 people (approximately) live, with 666 as the density of population per square kilometer.

4.1.2. Population: The distributions of panchayat areas along with their respective population are as follows.

Sl. No.	Gram Panchayats	Population
1	Sualkuchi East G.P.	9103
2	Sualkuchi Madhya G.P.	17,517
3	Sualkuchi west G.P.	4900
4	Bongsor	7699
5	Gondhmou	5892
6	Dadara	10,482
7	Singimari	6499
8	Pacharia	8870

4.1.3. Origin and Development: According to Baishya (2005),Sualkuchi is considered as the Manchester of Assam for its quality in silk textiles. The Sualkuchi silk handloom cluster constitutes of near about 15 villages around sualkuchi within about 100 square kilometres, which gradually started to form since the seventies of the last century. People started to enter in the weaving profession by seeing higher income than from agriculture. The weaving tradition in this hamlet can be traced back to the 11th century when king Dharma Pal, sponsored the craft and brought 26 weaving families from Tantikuchi to Sualkuchi. The village became a weaving village when the SHAMS occupied Sualkuchi, after defeating the Mughals in the mid-17th century. As a matter of fact Sualkuchi was a "Craft Village" having several cottage industries till the forties of the last century. Besides the Handloom industry of the Tanties, oil processing in traditional ghani, goldsmith, pottery etc, the industries other than handloom are now almost extinct and the artisans have already taken up silk weaving as a profession. Until 1930, the weaving industry of Sualkuchi remained almost confined within the Tanti community of Tantipara (around the present Bazar chowk). Later people belonging to other communities also started to take up silk weaving gradually. The sualkuchi weaving industry flourished a lot during the World War II. The growing demand for fabrics and their increasing prices had been the main source of encouragement for starting weaving factories and engaging hired wage-weavers. Today the factory system is well equipped with semi-automatic fly shuttle handloom has already been extended

to the entire Sualkuchi and 73.78% of households of the place are being engaged with commercial weaving of handlooms. The census of handlooms in sualkuchi conducted in 2005 reveals that Sualkuchi has 16,975 active commercial handlooms. Most of the handlooms are run by woman weavers, who are basically hired from outside of Sualkuchi. A flow of migrated weavers from different parts of Assam has emerged gradually since eighties of the last century and presently migrant weavers are dominating the wage weavers of the town. To expedite the process of development in rural areas of state, a textile park in Sualkuchi on the outskirts of Guwahati was established.

4.1.4. Raw materials used by the weavers' community of Sualkuchi: There are four varieties of commercially used silk .the most widely used silk is mulberry (path). It constitutes about 95% of world silk production. The other commercially used silks are Eri, Tassar and Muga which are classified as Non Mulberry.

4.1.5. Silk Products by the weavers' community of Sualkuchi: According to Baishya (2005), Sualkuchi silk weavers are mainly engaged in weaving three traditional varieties of fabrics, which are intended mainly for the female, viz.

1. Mekhela-Chadar-blouse pieces,
2. Sarees and
3. Plain pieces or Thans or plain sheets of 10 meters length.

Some of the Mekhela weaving looms are also producing another piece of the size of Mekhela and it is locally called "Riha", which is used for marriage purposes, and the combination of the four pieces are called a set. Depending upon the floral designs woven in the fabrics, the products, particularly the Mekhelas and Chadars are classified into a) Simple pair (Jora) b) Medium pair and c) Highly decorated jora. The quality of products is proportional with number of floral designs woven in the fabrics, as well as the texture quality of the yarn. Besides the traditional Assamees clothes, some looms of the Sualkuchiare also engaged in weaving Dhara and Jainsem i.e. the traditional female dress of the Khassi and Jaintias of present Meghalaya. Some of the looms are weaving only Muga Sarees which are world famous and not only sold in Assam but also in other parts of India during the sixties of the last century. The basic products manufactured in the looms generally have the following measurement:

SL. NO.	NAME	LENGTH(M)	BREADTH (M)	SIZE IN SQ. MTR.
1	Mekhela	2.50	0.80	2.00
2·	Chadar	2.75	1.00	2.75
3	Riha	2.50	0.80	2.00
4	Blouse Piece	0.90	0.80	0.72
5	Saree	5.50	1.20	6.60
6	Thaan	10.00	0.80	8.00

5. Methodology

5.1. Scope and Coverage

The present study covers the weaver's community of Sualkuchi village of Guwahati subdivision that falls under the Kamrup district of Assam. Our study reveals the community information needs of such people, those of who belongs to the weaver community of the sample population and reside in the Madhya Sualkuchi Gram Panchayat. Sualkuchi falls under the jurisdiction of the Panchayat. The Gram Panchayat breakup as Sualkuchi East Gram Panchayat, Sualkuchi Madhya Gram Panchayat, Sualkuchi West Gram Panchayat, Bongshor Gram Panchayat, Gondhmou Gram Panchayat, Singimari Gram Panchayat, Dolibari Gram Panchayat, Pacharia Gram Panchayat.

According to the census report, 2001, the total population of Sualkuchi village is 60, 438, out of which 17,517 are weavers. The study is further limited to the Madhya Sualkuchi Gram Panchayat because of the large population of weavers who reside in the village. Around 3,730 numbers of weavers live in the Madhya Sualkuchi Gram Panchayat, out of which 122 persons are covered under this survey through random sampling of both sex. Both male and female adult weavers as well as persons belonging to the age group of below 18 are considered as the sample population for this study.

The field survey reveals that out of 122 persons, 48 are male and 72 are female and 2 persons are below the age group of 18 years. Our study covers the general information need, occupational need, educational information, health and safety measures taken whether any social welfare schemes are available to them or not and finally the need and perception of the weavers on the basis of certain social awareness institutions.

5.2. Methods Used

The present study has been made to explore the information needs of the artisan's community of Madhya Sualkuchi Block. This study is mainly based on survey methods which include field survey with the help of questionnaire. For further emphasis, Government and other valid documents are collected from the authorised person of Directorate of Handloom Services, Panchayat Office and Block Office of Sualkuchi.

At first, information about artisans of Sualkuchi are collected and consulted through literature, focusing mainly on the information need of the community to depict a clear picture bout the sociological status and lifestyle of the artisans.

An unstructured questionnaire had been prepared in order to enquire the information seeking pattern of the community. The objective of preparing questionnaire was to acquire the data by free flow of conversation. The questionnaire include the Personal Information Need, General Information Need, Occupational Information Need, Educational Information, Health and Safety, Social Welfare Schemes and certain social awareness institutions criteria.

After designing the questionnaire, the following methods were adopted for conducting the research:

1. The survey spot was reached and all necessary preparations were made.

2. A pilot survey was done through on-spot data collection by various means with the help of a local guide.

3. The actual survey was done by selecting the samples from the sample population with the help of questionnaire, personal observation and interaction. The non-participant observation had also been made in the study. Sample was collected through random sampling from both the sex.

All the primary data collected through the field survey have been summarised, tabulated and analysed. Information obtained from institutional sources as well as secondary document sources have also been consulted and used in the study. The collected data are explained and presented item-wise on the basis of different variables and with the help of charts, tables etc. Statistical techniques are used and tabulation formats were designed accordingly for analysis and interpretation.

6. Analysis of the Findings

Collected data were presented in the tabulation form. Firstly, formats of tabulation were designed. Then dummy tables with table heading have been prepared item-wise. Having completed the tabulation work, the tabled were individually interpreted item-wise. The data were explained mostly on the basis of percentage, distribution and analysis on the basis of the nature of such distribution.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents

TYPE OF POPULATION	MALE				FEMALE				ALL TOTAL
	GENERAL	SC	ST	OBC	GENERAL	SC	ST	OBC	
RESPONENTS (in percent)	21 (17.22)	10 (8.19)	3 (2.46)	15 (12.29)	16 (13.12)	17 (13.94)	5 (4.09)	35 (28.69)	122
NON-RESPONDENTS (in percent)	4 (3.28)	0	0	7 (5.74)	0	2 (1.64)	5 (4.09)	10 (8.19)	28
TOTAL (in percent)	25 (20.50)	10 (8.19)	3 (2.46)	22 (18.03)	16 (13.12)	19 (13.38)	10 (8.19)	45 (36.88)	150

The above table 1 shows the distribution of respondents at Madhya Sualkuchi, Kamrup district. It is found from the table that there was 150 persons out of which 122 were respondents and 28 were non-respondents. Out of the total respondents 40.16% were male and 59.84% were female. Out of 49 male respondents, 17.22% belong to the General category, 8.19% belong to the Schedule Caste (SC) category, 2.46% belong to the Schedule Tribe (ST) category, and 12.29% belong to the OBC

category. Out of 73 female respondents, 13.12% belong to the General category, 13.94% belong to the SC category, and 28.69% belong to the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category.

On the other hand, out of the total non-respondents, 9.02% were male and 13.92% were female. Out of 11 male non-respondents, 3.82% belong to the General category and 5.74% belong to the OBC category. Out of 17 female non-respondents, 1.64% belong to the SC category, 4.09% belong to the ST category, and 8.19% belong to the OBC category.

So it is revealed from the above table that about 60% people were female and 40% were male. Out of the female respondents, it is found out that there are more respondents in the OBC category when compared to the male counterparts. In the general category however, the number of male respondents is more than the female counterparts.

Table 2: Distribution of Weavers population in Sualkuchi block of Kamrup district in Assam:

Total Population	Weavers			Non Weavers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
17,517 (100%)	1557 (8.89%)	2173 (12.40%)	3730 (21.29%)	8134 (46.43%)	5653 (32.28%)	13787 (78.71%)

The table 2 shows the distribution of the weavers in Sualkuchi block area of Assam. In this table it is shown that the total population 17,517 was consisted of 21.29% of weavers and 78.71% of Non Weavers. The table also shows the sex wise distribution of weavers and non weavers. It was found that the female weavers are predominant among the total number of weavers, consisting of 12.40% of the total population.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents in regard to nature of occupational engagement

Age groups	Owner			Labour			Total
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
Up to 18	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)
18-28	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	16 (13.11%)	20 (16.39%)	25 (20.49%)
28-38	3 (2.46%)	4 (3.28%)	7 (5.74%)	10 (8.19%)	28 (22.45%)	38 (31.15%)	45 (36.89%)
38-48	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)	11 (9.02%)	14 (11.48%)	25 (20.49%)	31 (25.41%)

48-58	4 (3.28%)	0	4 (3.28%)	4 (3.28%)	5 (4.10%)	9 (7.38%)	13 (10.66%)
58 Above	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.27%)	6 (4.92%)
Total	16 (13.11%)	8 (6.56%)	24 (19.68%)	33 (27.05)	65 (53.28%)	98 (80.33%)	122 (100%)

The above table shows the distribution of respondents in regard to their nature of involvement under different age groups. Under the age group of below 18 years there were only 1.64% labourers out of the total respondents. Under the age group of 18-28 years 20.49% respondents were there out of which 4.10% were owners and 16.39% were labourers. Under the age group 28-38 years 36.89% respondents were there out of which 5.74% were owners and 31.15% were labourers. Under the age group 38-48 years 25.41% respondents were there among them 4.92% were owners and 20.49% were labourers, out of total owners of this age group 4.10% were male and 0.82% were female. Under the age group of 48-58 years 10.66% respondents were there, out of which 3.28% were owners male and 7.38% were labourers. Out of the total labourers 3.28% were male and 4.10% were female. Under the age group of above 58 years 4.92% respondents were there, out of the total 1.64% were owners and 3.27% were labourers.

It is clear from the table, out of the total respondents 19.68% were owners and 80.33% were labourers.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents' sex and age in respect of Educational Qualification

Age Group	Educational Qualification												Total
	I-IV		V-VIII		X pass		XII & above		Others		Illiterate		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Below 18	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)
18-28	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	0 0	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	0 0	0 0	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	25 (20.49%)
28-38	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.28%)	9 (7.38%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	8 (6.56%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	12 (9.84%)	45 (36.89%)
38-48	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)	1 (0 82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	6 (4 92%)	7 (5 74%)	31 (25.41%)
48-58	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	1 (1.64%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	2 (1 64%)	2 (1 64%)	13 (10.66%)
58 & above	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	3 (2 46%)	0	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	6 (4.92%)
Total	4 (3.28%)	10 (8.20%)	11 (9.02%)	13 (10.66%)	7 (5.74%)	12 (9.84%)	15 (12.30%)	10 (8.20%)	1 (0.82%)	0	11 (9.01%)	28 (22.96%)	122 (100%)

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The above table gives the information about the educational qualification of the respondents under different age group. There were 122 respondents in total, out of which 68.03% respondents were literate and 31.97% were illiterate. Very few respondents studied upto class IV, in which 3.28% were male and 8.20% were female. 9.02% male and 10.66% female studied upto class VIII whereas 5.74% male and 9.84% female were class X pass. Most of the literate respondents were class XII pass and opted for higher studies. Only 0.82% male respondent had other qualification. So it is analyzed that out of 122 respondents, maximum respondents were from the age group 28-38, in which there were maximum number of female illiterates were present.

Table 5: Distribution of the respondents according to their Monthly Income in respect to age and sex

Age Group	Below Rs 2000		Rs 2000-Rs 5000		Rs 5000-Rs 8000		Rs 8000-Rs 12000		More than Rs 12000	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0
18-28	0	0	3 (2.46%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	13 (10.65%)	0	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	0
28-38	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	9 (7.38%)	15 (12.29%)	1 (0.82%)	8 (6.55%)	0 0	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)
38-48	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	10 (8.19%)	8 (6.55%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	0	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)
48-58	0	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0
58 and above	0	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0
Total	2 (1.64%)	5 (4.10%)	19 (15.58%)	34 (27.86%)	12 (9.83%)	26 (21.30%)	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	11 (9.02%)	4 (3.28%)

The above table describes the distribution of respondents according to their monthly income. From the table it is revealed that most of the respondent earned in the range of Rs 2000-5000. Also it is found that most of the male respondents earned in the range of Rs 5000-8000 and female respondents earned in the range of Rs2000-50000. Most of the earning respondents were from the age group 28-38. Only 1.64% male and 4.10% female earned below 2000 whereas 9.02% male and 3.38% female earned above Rs 12000.

Table 6: Distribution of kinds of general information required by the respondents

AGE Group	Education M	Education F	Occupational M	Occupational F	Commercial M	Commercial F	Health M	Health F	Political M	Political F	Judicial M	Judicial F	General M	General F	Religious M	Religious F	Others M	Others F	Total
Below 18	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)
18-28	2 (1.64%)	5 (4.10%)	8 (6.56%)	17 (13.9%)	0	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	48 (39.33%)
28-38	5 (4.10%)	3 (2.46%)	15 (12.3%)	25 (20.4%)	3 (2.46%)	0	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	62 (50.77%)
38-48	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	15 (12.3%)	24 (19.6%)	1 (0.82%)	0	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	64 (54.07%)
48-58	3 (2.46%)	0	7 (5.74%)	6 (4.92%)	1 (0.82%)	0	3 (2.46%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	28 (22.93%)
58 and above	1 (0.82%)	0	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	9 (7.38%)
TOTAL	16 (13.11%)	13 (10.66%)	48 (39.34%)	75 (20.49%)	6 (6.47%)	1 (0.82%)	13 (10.66%)	7 (5.74%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.28%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)	10 (8.20%)	5 (4.10%)	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	213

Table 6 shows the general information required by the artisan community at Sualkuchi. From the table it is found that most of the respondents (59.83%) required occupational information. Next to occupational information 23.77% respondents required educational related information. Very few i.e. 4.10% respondents required religious information. Only 0.82% respondent had other information requirement. Other than this 16.40% and 13.12% respondents required health and general information whereas 7.29%, 4.92% and 4.10% required commercial, political and judicial information respectively. So from the above table it is clear that the need of general information is mostly between the age group 38-48 and least information requirement in the age group below 18 years.

Table 7: Distribution of respondents of most common ways for accessing and retrieving Information

Age Group	BROWSING BOOKS		READING LEAFLET/ PAMPHLET		READING A MAGAZINE		READING NEWSPAPER		TALKING BY TELEPHONE		USING A COMPUTER (E.G. EMAIL, INTERNET)		WATCHING TELEVISION		OTHERS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Upto 18	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	0	0
18-28	2 (1.64%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	0	2 (1.64%)
28-38	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	5 (4.10%)	7 (5.74%)	7 (5.74%)	14 (11.48%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	4 (3.28%)	11 (9.02%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)
38-48	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	4 (3.28%)	3 (2.46%)	6 (4.92%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	6 (4.92%)	7 (5.74%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)
48-58	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	5 (4.10%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0
58 & Above	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0
Total	7 (5.74%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	0	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	19 (15.58%)	17 (13.94%)	16 (13.12%)	24 (19.68%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	13 (10.66%)	28 (22.96%)	6 (4.92%)	10 (8.20 %)

From Table 7, it can be found out that out of the total respondents of 122, upto the age group 18, 0.82% male browse books for accessing and retrieving information sources. There was no female respondent. Similarly no respondent came up in reading leaflet/pamphlet, both male as well as female. There was no respondent in case of reading a magazine. 0.82% male within the age group, up to 18 reads newspaper for accessing and retrieving information. No female respondent was found. No respondents were found both on male as well as female category when it comes to talking by telephone to someone, using a computer, as well as watching television.

In the age group, 18-28, it was found that only 1.64 % male browsed books, read leaflet or pamphlet for accessing and retrieving information. No female respondent was found on both the categories of browsing books as well as reading leaflet or pamphlet. 0.82% male reads magazine and 1.64% male and 2.46% female reads newspaper for getting information. 0.82% male and 4.10% female talked with someone through telephone, while 1.64% male used a computer for retrieving information. 0.82 % male and 4.10% female watched television to get valuable information while 1.64% female got information from other valuable sources.

In the age group, 28-38, 0.82% male and 2.46% female browsed books, while 0.82% male and 1.64% female read magazine for accessing information. 4.10% male and 5.74% female read newspaper again, 5.74% male and 11.48% female talked through telephone for accessing and retrieving information. 1.64% female used computer while 3.28% male and 9.02% female accessed information by watching television. 0.82% male and 4.92% female got information from other valuable sources.

0.82% female belonging to the age group 38-48, browse books for accessing and retrieving information while 3.28% male and 2.46% female read newspaper for getting necessary knowledge. 4.92% male and 1.64% female retrieve information through talking by telephone with someone, whereas 0.82% male use a computer for information access. 4.92% male and 5.74% female watches television for gaining knowledge, whereas 2.46% male and 1.64% female get information from other valuable sources.

In the age group, 48-58, 2.46% male browsed books and 0.82% male read magazine for gaining information. 4.10% male and 2.46% female read newspaper for retrieving primary information whereas 1.64% male and 1.64% female talked through telephone in information access. 1.64% male as female watches television and 1.64% female get information from others for accessing information.

In the age group, above the age group 58, 1.64% male and 0.82% female read newspaper while 0.82% female conversed through telephone for obtaining valuable information. 2.46% female watches television for getting valuable and important information.

Therefore from the above results obtained from the table we can see that both male and female obtained information mostly by conversing with others in telephone, followed by watching television and ultimately through by reading newspaper.

Table 8: Distribution of respondents using most common sources for retrieving general information

AGE GROUP	PANCHAYAT		BLOCK OFFICE		LOCAL MARKET		MEDIA (Print/Non-Print)		LIBRARY		FAMILY & FRIENDS		OTHERS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Upto 18	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0
18-28	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	6 (4.19%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	2 (1.64%)	0	0	8 (6.55%)
28-38	5 (4.10%)	8 (6.55%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	8 (6.55%)	17 (13.93%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.28%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	5 (4.10%)
38-48	7 (5.74%)	6 (4.19%)	0	1 (0.82%)	15 (12.29%)	9 (7.38%)	0	0	0	0	7 (5.74%)	0	3 (2.46%)	10 (8.20%)
48-58	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	8 (6.55%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0
58 and above	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	21 (17.21%)	18 (14.74%)	6 (4.1%)	4 (3.28%)	39 (31.95%)	37 (30.37%)	4 (3.28%)	5 (3.56%)	1 (0.82%)	0	13 (10.66%)	17 (13.93%)	3 (2.45%)	23 (18.84%)

The above table shows the distribution of respondents using most common sources for retrieving general information. It was found from the table that there were 122 respondents among which 2.46%, 26.22%, 47.38%, 49.17%, 22.95% and 7.38% belong to the age group of below 18, between 18-28, between 28-38, between 38-48, between 48-58 and finally above 58 respectively.

Maximum people got information from the Local Market i.e. 76 out of 122 respondents. Among them 9.01%, 20.48%, 19.67%, 9.83%, and 3.28% belong to the age group between 18-28, between 28-38, between 38-48, between 48-58 and finally above 58 respectively.

So from the above table it is clear that most of the people i.e. 62.33% used the local market as the most common source of collection/retrieving information, followed by the Panchayat office which covers 31.95%. Another important source is family and friends which is though an informal source. Library, on the hand, was rarely used compared to other sources.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents having awareness about market places

Age Group	Nearby Market		Distant Market		Through Middleman		Mahajan		Others	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Upto 18	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0
18-28	4 (3.28%)	10 (8.20%)	2 (1.64%)	7 (5.74 %)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	3 (2.45%)	0	1 (0.82%)
28-38	8 (6.56%)	22 (18.03%)	4 (3.28%)	18 (14.75%)	2 (1.64%	9 (7.37%)	0	6 (4.92%)	0	2 (1 64%)
38-48	13 (10.64%)	9 (7.37%)	6 (4.92%)	4 (3.28%)	5 (4.10%)	3 (2.45%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)
48-58	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	5 (4.10%)	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.45%)	0	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.45%)	0	0
58 & Above	4 (3.28%)	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.45 %)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)
Total	35 (28.68%)	47 (38.52%)	20 (16.39%)	32 (26.22%)	12 (9.83%)	13 (10.64%)	2 (1.64%)	13 (10.64%)	0	5 (4.10%)

Table 9 shows that there were 122 respondents of different age groups, out of which 28.6% male and 38.52% female have information about the nearby market, 16.39% male and 26.22% female knew about the distant market places. 9.83% male and 10.64% female became aware about the market places through a middleman. Sometimes, persons become aware about the market places from the Mahajan. The respondents found in this category were 1.64% male and 10.64% female. 4.10% female were aware of the market places from others. No male respondent was found in this category.

In the age group, upto 18, 0.82% male and 0.82% female got nearby market information. 3.28% male and 8.20% female, within the age group 18-28 were aware about the market related information. In the age group, 28-38, 6.56% male and 18.03% female were aware about the nearby market places. While 10.64% male and 7.37% female belonging to the age group 38-48 knew about the nearby market place. In the age group, 58 and above, 3.28% male and 0.82% female were aware about the nearby market.

The above table indicates that the majority of the weaver's community of Madhya Sualkuchi depend on the local or nearby market place to get information. Though quite a number of weavers got information from distant market places yet the local market serves as their main guide and the labours specifically got the market related information from their owners.

Table 10: Distribution of the respondents having information about the sources of raw materials

Age Group	Co-worker		Panchayat		Neighbours		Medias		Owner	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)
18-28	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	4 (3.28%)	10 (8.19%)
28-38	7 (5.74%)	11 (9.02%)	3 (2.46%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	12 (9.84%)
38-48	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	3 (2.46%)	4 (3.28%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	7 (5.74%)	6 (4.92%)
48-58	4 (3.28%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)
58 and above	0	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	0
Total	17 (13.94%)	25 (20.5%)	12 (9.84%)	13 (10.66%)	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	17 (13.94%)	30 (24.59%)

Table no. 10 identifies the information sources of raw materials. From the above table it is clear that out of 122 respondents of different age groups, total 13.94% male and 20.5% female got information about sources of raw materials from their co-workers, 9.84% male and 10.66% female got information from Panchayat, only 1.64% male and 2.46% female received information from their neighbours, 1.64% male and 1.64% female got information from media and finally 13.94% male and 24.59% female received information from their owner. So it is clear from the above table that maximum people i.e. 38.53% received information from their owner, 34.44% from their co-worker. Other sources are panchayat, neighbours and finally the media from where they got the information about the sources of their raw materials.

Table 11: Distribution of information about source capital

Age Group	Source of capital												Total
	Own Source		Family Investment		Bank Loan		Co-operative		Mahajan		Other		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Below 18	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)
18-28	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	3 (2.46%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	13 (10.66%)	27 (22.13%)
28-38	11 (9.02%)	13 (10.66%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0	0	3 (3.28%)	8 (6.56%)	1 (0.82%)	10 (8.20%)	49 (40.16%)
38-48	12 (9.84%)	7 (5.74%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	4 (3.28%)	3 (2.46%)	35 (28.69%)
48-58	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	4 (3.28%)	0	0	0	2 (1.64%)	3 (2.46%)	0	0	15 (12.30%)
58 & above	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	2 (1.64%)	0	0	8 (6.56%)
Total	31 (25.42%)	26 (21.32%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	7 (5.74%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	0	9 (3.78%)	22 (18.04%)	7 (5.74%)	27 (22.13%)	136

The above table shows the information about source capital under the different age groups. From this table it is revealed that out of 122 respondents, most of the people i.e. 46.74% used their own source of capital for investment purpose. 21.82% people borrowed capital from the Mahajans, 7.38% uses the facility of Bank Loan, 3.28% invests capital from their Family, only 0.82% selected co-operative as the source of capital and rest 27.87% collect their capital from other sources.

Table 12: Distribution of respondents in regard to preventive measures in regard to Health & Hygiene

Age Group	Pure Drinking Water		Use of Toilets		Use of mosquito net		Use of cleaning agents		Drainage system		Use of Latrine		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0
18-28	7 (5.74%)	15 (12.30%)	9 (7.38%)	14 (11.47%)	7 (5.74%)	13 (10.66%)	6 (4.92%)	8 (6.56%)	6 (4.92%)	10 (8.20%)	8 (6.56%)	12 (9.84%)	0	0
28-38	15 (12.30%)	28 (22.95%)	13 (10.66%)	28 (22.95%)	9 (7.38%)	26 (21.31%)	10 (8.20%)	9 (7.38%)	8 (6.56%)	20 (16.39%)	15 (12.30%)	27 (22.13%)	0	0
38-48	12 (9.84%)	14 (11.48%)	16 (13.12%)	14 (11.48%)	10 (8.20%)	8 (6.56%)	7 (5.74%)	4 (3.27%)	10 (8.20%)	6 (4.92%)	17 (13.93%)	13 (10.66%)	0	0
48-58	8 (6.56%)	4 (3.27%)	6 (4.92%)	4 (3.27%)	6 (4.92%)	6 (4.92%)	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	6 (4.92%)	3 (2.46%)	6 (4.92%)	5 (4.09%)	0	0
58 & above	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	0	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.27%)	1 (0.82%)	0	0
Total	47 (38.52%)	63 (51.63%)	48 (39.34%)	62 (50.81%)	36 (29.50%)	55 (45.08%)	29 (23.77%)	23 (18.55%)	34 (27.87%)	41 (33.60%)	50 (40.98%)	59 (48.36%)	0	0

The above table 12 shows the distribution of respondents in regard to their awareness about health and hygiene, under different age groups. Out of the total respondents, 90.16% respondents were using pure drinking water. 35.25% respondents of the age group 28-38 years and 21.31% respondents of the age group 38-48 years were having information about the pure drinking water.

Out of the total respondents, 90.16% respondents were having awareness of toilets .Out of them 33.60% respondents were from age group 28-38years, 24.06% were from 38-48 years and 8.19% were from 48-58years respectively. 74.6% of the total respondents were having information about the mosquito net, out of them 28.68% respondents were from age group 28-38 years and 14.76% respondents were from the age group of 38-48 years.

Out of the total respondents, 42.63% respondents were having information on cleaning agents. Out of them 11.48%, 15.58%, 9.02% and 4.10% respondents were having information on cleaning agents in the age group of 18-28years, 28-38 years, 38-48 years and 48-58 years respectively.

Total 61.48% respondents were having information about drainage system. Out of them 9.02%, 22.96%,13.11%,7.38% and 4.10% respondents were having awareness about drainage system in the age group of 18-28 years, 28-38 years, 38-48 years, 48-58 years and 58 & above years respectively.

Total 89.34% respondents were having information about the use of latrine. In the age group between 18-28 year 28-38 years, 38-48 years and 48- 58 years, 16.39%, 34.43%, 24.59% and 9.02% respondents were having awareness about use of latrines.

Here it is noticeable that most of the respondents were aware about pure drinking water, use of toilets and latrines but a very few respondents were aware about the use of cleaning agents.

Table 13: Distribution of the respondents having awareness about the social welfare schemes

AGE Group	Anganbadi		Self Help Group		Old Age Pension		IAY Beneficiaries		PMGSY		NREGA		WCC Scheme		IHDS		MGBBY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0
18-28	2 (1.64%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	4 (3.28%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)	4 (3.28%)	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	0	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	0
28-38	3 (2.46%)	10 (8.20%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	4 (3.28%)	0	9 (7.38%)	0	8 (6.56%)	0	5 (4.10%)	0	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	0	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)
38-48	0	10 (8.20%)	3 (2.46%)	15 (12.29%)	3 (2.46%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	0
48-58	0	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.64%)	0	3 (2.46%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	0	0	0	3 (2.46%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
58 and above	0	1 (0.82%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)	3 (2.46%)	0	1 (0.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	5 (4.10%)	27 (22.14%)	12 (9.84%)	23 (18.88%)	14 (11.48%)	7 (5.74%)	17 (13.94%)	7 (5.74%)	10 (8.20%)	6 (4.92%)	12 (9.82%)	5 (4.10%)	5 (4.10%)	5 (4.10%)	3 (2.46%)	3 (2.46%)	5 (4.10%)	1 (0.82%)

Table 13 shows the distribution of respondents having awareness about the social welfare schemes. The social welfare schemes distributed across nine different schemes namely Anganbadi, Self Help Group, Old Age Pension, IAE Beneficiaries, PMGSY, NREGA, WCC Scheme, IHDS, and MGBBY. Among the total population 4.10% male and 22.14 female were aware about the Anganbadi and significant proportion of population that was 8.20% lied in each age group of 28-38 and 38-48 years. 9.84% and 8.85% male and female had awareness about the Self Help Group where 12.29% male population lied in the age group of 38-48 years. It was found that 11.48% male and 5.74% female population aware about Old Age Pension where most significant proportion lied between the age group of 48-58 years. Indira Awas Yojona was known to 13.74% male and 5.74% female population and significant proportion that was 7.38% male population. It was also revealed that 8.20% male and 4.92% female respondents aware about PMGSY and significant proportion lied that is 6.56% male population in the age group of 28-38 years. NREGA scheme was aware to 9.84% male and 4.10% female population and here significant proportion was in between the age group of 28-38 years of male population. WCC scheme, IHDC and MGBBY scheme were not exposed to most of the respondents. It was found that 4.10% male and female respondents were aware about WCC scheme where as 2.46% male and female population knew the IHDS and only 4.10% male and 0.82% female was aware about MGBBY scheme.

Table 14: Distribution of respondents requiring information about different types of social welfare schemes

Age Group	Occupational		Training		Child welfare		Marketing		Others	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Upto 18	1 (0.82)%	1 (0.82)%	1 (0.82)%	1 (0.82)%	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
18-28	7 (5.74%)	16 (13.11%)	7 (5.74%)	14 (11.48%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (3.28%)	6 (4.92%)	10 (8.20%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (1.64%)
28-38	14 (11.48%)	28 (22.95%)	4 (3.28%)	9 (7.38%)	1 (0.82%)	12 (9.84%)	13 (10.66%)	22 (18.03%)	2 (1.64%)	2 (1.4%)
38-48	13 (10.66%)	7 (5.74%)	7 (5.74%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)	10 (8.20%)	8 (6.56%)	6 (4.92%)	2 (1.64%)	1 (0.82%)
48-58	4 (3.28%)	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (0.82%)	5 (4.10%)	2 (1.64%)	6 (4.92%)	3 (2.46%)
58 above	3 (2.46%)	1 (0.82%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (2.46%)	0 (0.00%)	4 (3.28%)	2 (1.64%)
Total	42 (34.43%)	55 (45.08%)	20 (16.39%)	28 (22.95%)	3 (2.46%)	27 (22.13%)	35 (28.69%)	40 (32.79%)	14 (11.48%)	10 (8.20%)

The table 14 shows the distribution of respondents requiring i nformation about different types of social welfare schemes. The table describes that 34.43% male and 45.08% female respondents of the total population required information about occupational welfare schemes. 16.39% male and 22.95% female respondents required information about the training related welfare schemes. The table shows that there were 2.46% male and 22.13% female respondents who required information about the child welfare schemes. The table also depicts that 28.69% 0f male and 32.79% of female respondents
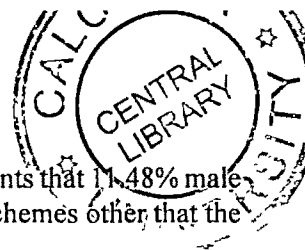
required social welfare scheme information related to marketing. The table presents that 11.48% male and 8.20% female respondents required information about the social welfare schemes other that the previous welfare schemes as described in this table.

Table 15: Distribution of respondents about their awareness of public institutions

AGE GROUP	BANK		PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION		POST OFFICE		BLOCK OFFICE		SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICE		LIBRARY		COURT		ELECTRICITY OFFICE		RAILWAY TICKET BOOKING		INFORMATION CENTRE	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
upto 18	1(0.82%)	1(0.82%)	0	0	1(0.82%)	1(0.82%)	0	1(0.82%)	0	1(0.82%)	0	0	0	1(0.82%)	0	0	0	1(0.82%)	0	0
18-28	6(4.92%)	13(9.89%)	0	1(0.82%)	5(4.10%)	12(9.89%)	4(3.28%)	11(9.02%)	0	7(5.74%)	5(4.1%)	9(7.38%)	6(4.92%)	8(6.56%)	7(5.74%)	9(7.38%)	4(3.28%)	9(7.38%)	0	3(2.46%)
28-38	13(9.89%)	28(22.17%)	4(3.28%)	3(2.46%)	12(9.83%)	21(17.21%)	11(9.02%)	20(16.4%)	5(4.1%)	7(5.74%)	8(6.56%)	13(9.89%)	8(6.56%)	16(13.11%)	11(9.02%)	25(20.49%)	9(7.38%)	20(16.39%)	2(1.64%)	1(0.82%)
38-48	16(13.10%)	14(11.48%)	4(3.28%)	2(1.64%)	15(12.3%)	14(11.48%)	6(4.92%)	9(7.38%)	6(7.38%)	1(0.82%)	3(2.46%)	4(2.46%)	1(0.82%)	3(2.46%)	12(9.83%)	12(9.83%)	12(9.83%)	6(4.92%)	3(2.46%)	1(0.82%)
48-58	8(6.56%)	4(2.46%)	3(2.46%)	1(0.82%)	9(7.38%)	3(2.46%)	5(4.1%)	2(1.64%)	6(4.92%)	2(1.64%)	6(4.92%)	1(0.82%)	5(4.1%)	1(0.82%)	8(6.56%)	3(2.46%)	6(4.92%)	1(0.82%)	1(0.82%)	1(0.82%)
58 and above	5(4.1%)	1(0.82%)	1(0.82%)	0	5(4.1%)	0	3(2.46%)	0	2(1.64%)	0	3(2.46%)	0	3(2.46%)	0	4(2.46%)	0	1(0.82%)	0	0	0
TOTAL	48(39.34%)	61(50%)	12(9.83%)	7(5.74%)	47(38.53%)	51(41.81%)	29(23.78%)	43(35.26%)	19(15.58%)	19(15.58%)	30(24.60%)	28(22.96%)	33(27.06%)	29(23.78%)	42(34.43%)	50(40.28%)	32(26.23%)	37(30.33%)	6(4.92%)	6(4.92%)

Table 15 shows the distribution of respondents about the awareness of public institutions. The total number of respondents is 122. Out of 122 in the age group below 18, 0.82% male and 0.82% female were aware of bank, as well as post office. Also it is found that 0.82% female were aware of block office, library, court, electricity office, railway ticket booking respectively.

In the age group 18-28, there were 4.92% male and 9.89% female were aware of bank institutions. In case of professional associations, there were 0.82% female aware. In case of post office, there were 4.10% male and 9.80% female were aware of it. 3.28% male and 9.02% female were aware of block offices. 5.74% female were aware of library services and only 7.38% female were aware of library services. 4.92% male and 6.56% female were aware of judicial system. 5.74% male and 7.38% female were aware of electricity office. 3.28% male and 7.38% female were aware of railway ticket booking facility. 2.46% female were only aware of information centre.

In the age group 28-38, 9.89% male and 22.71% female were aware of bank. 3.28% male and 2.46% female were aware of professional association. 9.83% male and 17.21% female were aware of post office facility. 9.02% male and 6.40% female were aware of block office. 4.10% male and 5.74% female were aware of sub divisional office. 6.56% male and 10.66% female were aware of library services. 6.56% male and 13.11% female were aware of judicial system. 9.02% male and 20.49% female were aware of electricity office. 7.38% male and 16.39% female were aware of Railway ticket booking. 1.64% male and 0.82% female were aware of information centre.

In the age group 38-48, 13.01% male and 11.48% female were aware of banking services. 3.28% male and 1.64% female were aware of professional associations. 12.3% male and 11.48% female were aware of post offices. 4.92% male and 7.38% female were aware of block offices. 4.92% male and 7.38% female were aware of subdivision office. 6.56% male and 3.28% female were aware of library services. 9.02% male and 2.46% female were aware of Railway ticket booking. 2.46% male and 0.825 female were aware of information centre.

In the age group 48-58, 6.56% male and 3.28% female as well as 2.46% male and 0.82% female were aware of bank and professional associations respectively. 7.38% male and 2.46% female whereas 4.10% male and 1.64% female were aware of post offices and block offices respectively. Whereas 4.92% male and 1.64% female while 4.92% male and 0.82% female were aware of sub divisional offices and library respectively. 4.10% male and 0.82% female while 6.56% male and 2.46% female were aware of Railway ticket booking and information centre respectively.

In the age group 58 and above, 4.10% male and 0.82% female were aware of bank. Only 0.82% male were aware of professional associations. 4.10% male were aware of post offices. 2.46% male were aware of block office. 1.64% male were aware of sub divisional office. 2.46% male were aware of electricity office. 0.82% male were aware of Railway ticket booking.

It can be interpreted that bank, post office, block office, electricity office are the most commonly used public institutions whereas the social institutions like library and information centre are the commonly neglected institutions.

7. Conclusion

The study investigated the information need of the weavers' community of Madhya Sualkuchi in Kamrup district of Assam. The broad spectrum of purpose is to give the idea of social, economic and cultural life of weavers' community. The study undertaken to explore the weavers' basic socio economic profile in general and information need in particular. The different aspects of the survey and its analysis revealed the weavers population, educational qualification, health and social awareness, occupational information like main source of capital, sources of raw material, kind of raw materials used, market area where products are sold and monthly income, etc. The study leads to following conclusions.

The area Madhya Sualkuchi is vastly populated by the weavers' community and the main occupation is weaving using different raw materials on supply. The educational qualification of the weavers' community is not in high range. Most of the community members belong to the labour group and the occupation has been mostly hereditary. The monthly income of the weavers is not quite high. It is found that the information need of the weavers is diverse in regard to the occupation and daily life. The development of any community depends on economic and social improvement. On the basis of the study, it is concluded that the weavers' community of Madhya Sualkuchi require information on every aspect of life for their overall socio-economic development.

8. Suggestions

Some of the suggestions given by the authors that can help in uplifting the weavers' community of Sualkuchi are as follows:
1. Weavers mainly labourers should increase their awareness about various sources for accessing market related information.
2. It is required to update their skill through various training programme.
3. It is necessary to establish special school for the weavers. So that they can avail their educational facility after their work.
4. They should be introduced with modern weaving technology.
5. They should increase their educational level so that they can easily communicate with outsiders.
6. Weavers must have the opportunities for taking loan facilities from various sources (Government, banks, credit societies, associations) at relatively low interest rate.
7. Government should look after for implementing various social welfare schemes for the weavers.

8. They should be introduced with the purpose of using library system.

9. They should increase their awareness about more public institution like court, block office, professional association etc

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Information Need of Dhimal Community of Jamidarguri Village of Hatighisa Panchayat Under Naxalbari Block of Darjeeling District, West Bengal: A Survey

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Abstract

Information is an important element for development of socio-economic condition of people. The information need of the disadvantaged community in the tribal section need to have the proper evaluation to provide them community information service to develop the community. This study has given the socio economic condition and information need on different aspects of Dhimal community of Jamidarguri village under Naxalbari block of Darjeeling Dist, W.B. Overall it shows the description about the people belonging to the Dhimal Community.

Keywords: *Information Needs, Dhimal Community, Community Information Service, Jamidarguri, Naxalbari, Darjeeling.*

1. Introduction

In this cyber age information plays a pivotal role to the upliftment of a society. As the world around us is changing at rapid space so the application of ICT virtually makes a paradigm shift in the life pattern of the people. In this juncture the way of using information becomes so important for the overall development of the nation. It is imperative to say that there will be information need for the information seekers around the world. This information need may be ascertained through the appraisal of community. Broadly we can categorise two types of information need i.e. expressed and unexpressed information need. The first categories of users are usually conversant with the information infrastructure and got adequate facilities of using information but the second categories of users unable to express the information need. So we are now more concerned with the second category of users and their

unexpressed need. Several studies of information need of communities evidenced that the tribal communities unable to express their information need.

Therefore the community development through community appraisal is not possible. The primary concern of the tribal communities that they are unable to identify their own information need and thus this unexpressed information need is not addressed properly. They are also far from the sophisticated information infrastructure for fulfilling their information need. Community information and community information services are considered as vital source for overall development of community.

The Dhimal tribe, a small Indo-Mongoloid ethnic community, resides in the Tarai region of Naxalbari Block of Siliguri Subdivision in the Darjeeling District of West Bengal. They generally speak in Dhimal, Nepali and Bengali languages. Different culture and customs exist among them. They earn their breads mainly through agriculture, fishing and pasturing cattles. They cultivate mostly rice. This illiterate, poor and backward tribe is far from the modern amenities. Being nature worshippers, they are increasingly turning to Hinduism. There is a spiritual darkness within the Dhimals. The Dhimals are very fond of home brewed alcoholic drinks. This community use 'Mullick' as their surname. Dhimal community belong to OBC category but they are trying to get ST status now. Education is almost absent among them.

2. Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are the following:

- To describe a vivid socio economic profile of Dhimal community.
- To study the information need of Dhimal community regarding various areas such as education, occupation, employment opportunities etc.
- To study the level of consciousness about modern systems and facilities and family planning.
- To know about the government efforts to uplift the conditions of the Dhimal community by studying the availability of different social welfare schemes and their use by Dhimal community.
- To discuss the level of consciousness about health and hygiene among the people of Dhimal community.
- To study the awareness level of Dhimal community about the existence and role of library and information centers.
- To know about their sources of information and type of requiring information.
- To discuss the level of consciousness about their indigenous culture.
- To suggest the best possible ways to improve the socio economic status of the Dhimal community.

3. Literature Review

In order to get a clear picture of Dhimal community from various aspects different types of literature have been studied.

Bandopadhyay (2004) gives a brief account about the Dhimals. From this book, the history and origin, material culture, folklore, religion, language etc. have been studied.

Biswas (2008) expressed the historical importance of the status of Dhimals as per previous writings in the field of anthropological research, and also concluded that education, occupation and socio-cultural characteristic indicate the source of the community from Aryan Tribe.

Chakrabarti (1999) had explored that Totos, a small tribal community in Jalpaiguri were in utmost need of educational information. The study stated that the demand for information was closely related to the level of development of community concerned and this demand increase with the passage of time. The author suggested for introduction of community information centers, development of script of the said community for better informational support and the more initiative role of the government.

Chakrabarti and Basu (2000) discussed about the Totopara rural library in Jalpaiguri district. It also presented the library consciousness among Totos. Utilization of leisure time by library members of this community was also described here.

Chakrabarti (2001) explored and examined the information needs and information seeking behaviour of a marginal underprivileged tribal community namely Totos. Then author had come to a conclusion that information seeking behaviour of a community depended on various factors like psychology, social, cultural, historical, educational, economic etc. He had suggested for information of Community Information Centres, media services etc. to provide them relevant information and necessity of tribal script to encourage them and to express their information need.

Chakrabarti (2005) identified information needs of a community namely Dhibars in Phakirala and Malopara on economic aspects, education, health and the measure taken by government and non-governmental organizations. He assessed the extent of access and exposure of information regarding their occupation i.e. fishing etc. and evaluated the activities and effectiveness of Community Information Service on the basis of their need. The study recommended for some training and awareness programmes designing effective knowledge base and need of cooperation and participation of government agencies and local people to support information need of the fishermen community.

Chakrabarti (2006) described that the socio economic development of any community, engaged in a specific occupation, largely depends upon the provision of occupational information and their access to it. It also denotes that the rural artisans are being deprived in society due to poor physical and information infrastructure in their region. It attempts to determine and identify the information seeking behaviour of Solapith community in a rural region of Burdwan district of West Bengal.

Chakrabarti and Karan (2000) had analysed the very goal, objective, activities and information services provided by the Bio-Centres of M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation. They found that the activities of Bio-Centres were truly designed and activated for health, education and agriculture related information needs of the disadvantaged community in and around Villianur Village amidst their poverty with the traditional as well as modern information system.

Chakrabarti and Kundu (2006) stated that most people engaged in cottage industries were very much dependent on their traditional methods to gather their required information. They strongly desire to have an information centre or rural information centre though hardly have sufficient time. The study also has found that illiteracy was one of the obstacles for collecting their needed information.

Chakrabarti and others (2008) identified the information need of the Dukpa community of Lepcha-Kha who were basically non-users of the formal information system and revealed the information needs of the villagers with their traditional information needs.

Chakrabarti and others (2011) described a vivid picture about the different aspects of information need of Mech Community at Maa Bhandani Hat in Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal and highlighted mainly socio-economic condition of Mech Community with analysis considering all the aspects of their life. Overall, it was a clear and graphic description about the peoples belonging to the Mech Community.

Chattopadhyay and Chakrabarti (2003) observed the information need of the Solapith community and examined the effect of information obtained from information centres like public and rural library or other belonging to this community. The study explored that Solapith Community needed educational information for their professional development.

Risley (1981) provides information on tribe and castes of West Bengal from different aspects that is internal structure, marriage, religion, funeral, social status and occupation.

Tripathi (2001) revealed that the information requirements and approaches to information by researchers of Humanities and Social Sciences of the said university varied from one group to another group. The study emphasized on the collection of development of periodicals, strengthening of bibliographical a documentation services and participation of the library in resource sharing programmes with other libraries.

4. Methodology
4.1 Scope and Coverage
The study tried to reveal information needs of people belonging to the Dhimal community. This study has been carried out on the Dhimal community of Jamidarguri village of Hatighisa village panchayat under Naxalbari Block of Siliguri sub-division in Darjeeling District of West Bengal. In this village, we have covered total number of 22 Dhimal families. We observed that people of this village community are mostly Nepalese but Rajbanshi and Dhamal also live together with the same identity i.e. Dhimal

community. The total number of population on the village is 198. Not only the adult male and female but people belong to the age of below 18 are also considered as the sample population for this survey. The survey population includes 104 people of which 64 are male 36 are female and 04 people are below 18 years. The study covers some demographic characteristics that are the distribution according to age and gender of the people. The study also tries to find out information regarding their educational and occupational structure, agricultural information, their economic and social condition, health & hygiene, legal protection, modern social systems & facilities, social welfare schemes, family planning, library awareness, indigenous culture, their housing condition and other aspects are covered.

4.2 Methods used

This study is mainly based on survey methods which include field survey. Besides the survey methods questionnaire method, interview method and observation method have been taken to complete the research.

5. Findings and analysis of the data

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents according to age & sex

Age Group	Male (%)	Female (%)	Total	%
Below 18	3(2.88)	1(0.96)	4	3.85
18 to 28	12(11.54)	14(13.46)	26	25
28 to 38	24(23.08)	8(7.69)	32	30.77
38 to 48	13(12.5)	9(8.65)	22	21.15
48 to 58	8(7.69)	1(0.96)	9	8.65
58 – Above	7(6.73)	4(3.85)	11	10.58
Total	67(64.42)	37(35.58)	**104**	**100**

Table 1 shows the distribution of respondents according to age & sex. It reveals that the total population is 104 among them below 18 were 3.85%. In the age group of 18-28 total population is 25% and among them 11.54% are male and 23.08% are female. In the age group of 28-38 total population is 30.77% and among them 23.08% are male and 7.69% are female. In the age group of 38 - 48, total population is 21.15% and among them 12.5% are male and 8.65% are female. In the age group of 48 to 48 total population is 8.65% and among them 7.69% are male and 0.96% is female. In the age group of 58 – above total population is 10.58% and among them, 6.73% are male and 3.85% are female.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents in respect of Educational Qualification

Age Group	Literate															Illiterate		
	Up to V		Up to VIII		Up to X		Up to XII		Graduation		PG Level		Total					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Below 18	-	-	2 (1.92)	-	-	-	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	-	-		-	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)	-	-	-
18 to 28	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	3 (2.88)	2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	5 (4.81)	3 (2.88)		1 (0.96)	12 (11.54)	12 (11.54)	24 (23.08)	-	2 (1.92)	2 (1.92)
28 to 38	8 (7.69)	1 (0.96)	9 (8.65)	-	5 (4.81)	2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)	-	-	-	-	-	23 (22.12)	3 (2.88)	26 (25)	1 (0.96)	5 (4.81)	6 (5.77)
38 to 48	3 (2.88)	4 (3.85)	5 (4.81)	-	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	-	-	-	-	-	-	9 (8.65)	5 (4.81)	14 (13.46)	4 (3.85)	4 (3.85)	8 (7.69)
48 to 58	2 (1.92)	-	4 (3.85)	-	2 (1.92)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 (7.69)	0	8 (7.69)	-	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)
58 – Above	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)	4 (3.85)	3 (2.88)	7
Total	17 (16 35)	8 (7.69)	22 (21 15)	3 (2.88)	11 (10 58)	5 (4.81)	3 (2 88)	2 (1 92)	5 (4.81)	3 (2.88)	-	1 (0 96)	58 (55.77)	22 (21 15)	80 (76 92)	9 (8.65)	15 (14.42)	24 (23.08)

Table 2 shows the distribution of the educational qualification of the respondents in respect to age and sex. It shows that 76.92 %(80) persons are literate and 23.08 % (24) persons are illiterate and after class viii, the number of school going students are gradually decreasing. In case of higher studies the picture is almost the same. Table also shows that only 7.7% (8) students are in graduation level and only 01(0.96%) female candidate is in post graduate level.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents in respect of Occupation

Age Group	Employee Govt M	Employee Govt F	Owner M	Owner F	Agriculture Labour M	Agriculture Labour F	Shared M	Shared F	Day Labour M	Day Labour F	Trade M	Trade F	Tea Garden M	Tea Garden F	Unemployed M	Unemployed F	Seasonal Employed M	Seasonal Employed F	Student M	Student F	Total M	Total F	Total
Below 18															3 (2.88)					1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)
18 to 28	1 (0.96)				3 (2.88)	2 (1.92)							1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		6 (5.77)	1 (0.96)		6 (5.77)	4 (3.85)	12 (11.54)	14 (13.46)	26 (25)
28 to 38	1 (0.96)				14	1 (0.96)			4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)			5 (4.81)	1 (0.96)		4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)				24 (23.08)	8 (7.69)	32 (30.77)
38 to 48		1 (0.96)			6 (5.77)		1 (0.96)		4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)			1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)					13 (12.5)	9 (8.65)	22 (21.15)
48 to 58	1 (0.96)				3 (2.88)		2 (1.92)				1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)			1 (0.96)					8 (7.69)	1 (0.96)	9 (8.65)
58 – Above	1 (0.96)		2 (1.92)						2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)		2 (1.92)			3 (2.88)					7 (6.73)	4 (3.85)	11 (10.58)
Total	4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		26 (25)	3 (2.88)	3 (2.88)		10 (9.62)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)		10 (9.62)	6 (5.77)	4 (3.85)	18 (17.31)	2 (1.92)		6 (5.77)	5 (4.81)	67 (64.42)	37 (35.58)	104

Table3 shows the distribution of respondents in respect of occupation. It shows that though agriculture is their main occupation yet they are engaged in different types of occupation. Lion share portion of respondents, i.e. 34 persons (32.68%) are engaged in agriculture sector but 27.88% persons do not have their own land. Only 1.92% person's work in their own land and 2.88% people work in share land.16 persons (15.39%) are engaged in tea garden. Though the number is very few but a certain number of people works as Govt. Employee (4.81%), traders (0.96%), and seasonal employee (1.92%). Table also shows that 22 persons (21.15%) are unemployed and 11 persons (10.58%) are engaged in their studies.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents in respect of their Monthly Income

Age Group	Unemployed		Below Rs.2000		Rs.2000-4000		Rs.4000-6000		Rs.6000 & Above	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	3(2.88)	1(0.96)								
18 to 28	4(3.85)	10(9.62)	0	0	4(3.85)	3(2.88)	3(2.88)	1(0.96)	0	0
28 to 38	0	2(1.92)	6(5.77)	4(3.85)	8(7.69)	3(2.88)	9(8.65)	1(0.96)	0	0
38 to 48	0	3(2.88)	0	3(2.88)	8(7.69)	3(2.88)	3(2.88)		2(1.92)	0
48 to 58	0	0	2(1.92)	1(0.96)	4(3.85)		1(0.96)		1(0.96)	0
58 – Above	0	3(2.88)	4(3.85)	0	1(0.96)	1(0.96)	1(0.96)		1(0.96)	
Total	7(6.73)	19(18.27)	12(11.54)	8(7.69)	25(24.04)	10(9.62)	17(16.35)	2(1.92)	4(3.85)	

Table 4 shows the distribution of monthly income of the respondents. This table reveals the vivid picture of their economy condition. 25 people have no source of income. One third of total respondents, i.e. 33.65% people earn Rs.2000-4000 per month. Only 8 persons (7.69%) earn around Rs.6000 & above which is meagre in this society. The number of people whose monthly income below Rs.2000 is 20(19.23%) and almost same percentage of people earn Rs.4000-6000 per month.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents in respect of having Bank Account

Age group	Registered			Non-Registered		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
18 to 28	1(0.96)	3(2.88)	4 (3.85)	11 (10.58)	11 (10.58)	22 (21.15)
28 to 38	3(2.88)	1(0.96)	4(3.85)	21 (20.19)	7 (6.73)	28 (26.92)
38 to 48	2 (1.92)	1(0.96)	3(2.88)	11 (10.58)	8 (7.69)	19 (18.27)
48 to 58	4(3.85)	0	·4(3.85)	4(3.85)	1(0.96)	5 (4.81)
58 – Above	2 (1.92)	0	2 (1.92)	5 (4.81)	4(3.85)	9 (8.65)

Table 5 shows the number of registered and non- registered bank account holders of this community. It shows that most of the persons do not avail banking facility due to their financial instability. Only 17persons (16.35%) have bank account. Though there is no bank account of female persons in the age group of 48-58 and 58-above but it is also notable that female persons (2.88%) avail banking facility more than male persons in the age group of 18-28.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents in respect of availing modern system & facilities

Age group	Health insurance			Banking			Postal service			Panchayat System			Judicial system			Education System			Political System		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Below 18	0	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	0	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	3 (2.88)	0	3 (2.88)
18 to 28	1 (0.96)	4 (3.85)	5 (4.81)	12 (11.54)	8 (7.69)	20 (19.23)	12 (11.54)	8 (7.69)	20 (19.23)	12 (11.54)	12 (11.54)	24 (23.08)	7 (6.73)	7 (6.73)	14 (13.46)	8 (7.69)	12 (11.54)	20 (19.23)	11 (10.58)	9 (8.65)	20 (19.23)
28 to 38	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	5 (4.81)	16 (15.38)	5 (4.81)	21 (20.19)	15 (14.42)	4 (3.85)	19 (18.27)	23 (22.12)	7 (6.73)	30 (28.85)	12 (11.54)	5 (4.81)	17 (16.35)	21 (20.19)	7 (6.73)	28 (26.92)	21 (20.19)	7 (6.73)	28 (26.92)
38 to 48	0	5 (4.81)	5 (4.81)	8 (7.69)	5 (4.81)	13 (12.5)	8 (7.69)	4 (3.85)	12 (11.54)	13 (12.5)	9 (8.65)	22 (21.15)	6 (5.77)	6 (5.77)	12 (11.54)	12 (11.54)	7 (6.73)	19 (18.27)	12 (11.54)	5 (4.81)	17 (16.35)
48 to 58	2 (1.92)	0	2 (1.92)	5 (4.81)	0	5 (4.81)	4 (3.85)	0	4 (3.85)	7 (6.73)	0	7 (6.73)	6 (5.77)	0	6 (5.77)	6 (5.77)	0	6 (5.77)	7 (6.73)	0	7 (6.73)
58 – Above	0	0	0	4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	5 (4.81)	4 (3.85)		4 (3.85)	7 (6.73)	3 (2.88)	10 (9.62)	4 (3.85)	2 (1.92)	6 (5.77)	7 (6.73)	3 (2.88)	10 (9.62)	7 (6.73)	3 (2.88)	10 (9.62)

Table 6 depicts the distribution of respondents having information on modern system & facilities. Out of 104 respondents 18 persons (17.30%) possess information on Health Insurance, among them 5 (4.8%) persons are male and 13 (12.5%) are female. 66 (63.46%) persons have information regarding Banking System of which 47(45.19%) are male and 19 (18.26%) are female. 63 (60.57%) persons have information on Postal System of which 46 (44.23%) persons are male and 17(16.34%) persons are female. Table shows that 97 (93.26%) persons have information regarding Panchayat System of which 65 (62.5%) persons are male and 32 (30.76%) persons female. 57 (54.80%) respondents have information regarding Judicial system of which 36 (34.61%) persons are male and 21 (20.19%) persons are female.86 (82.69%) persons have information on Election system of which 56 (53 84%) persons are male and 30 (28.84%) persons are female. 85 (81.73%) respondents have information on Political system of which 61 (58.65%) persons are male and 24(23.07%) persons are female.

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents having information on Health & Hygiene

Age Group	Health Consultation				Immunization Programme					Hygiene				Alcoholic Drink
	Allopathy	Homeopathy	Ayurvedic	Quack	BCG	Polio	Hepatitis	DPT	Tetanus	Drinking Water	Use of Soap	Use of Latrine	Use of Mosquito Net	
Below 18	4(3.84)	03(2.88)	02(1.92)	03(2.88)	03(2.88)	04(3.84)	02(1.92)	02(1.92)	03(2.88)	04(3.84)	03(2.88)	02(1.92)	04(3.84)	01(0.96)
18 to 28	24(23.07)	13(12.5)	10(9.61)	23(22.11)	10(9.61)	24(23.07)	10(9.61)	04(3.84)	07(6.73)	25(24.03)	22(21.15)	05(4.80)	20(19.23)	16(15.38)
28 to 38	29(27.88)	12(11.53)	8(7.69)	24(23.07)	08(7.69)	25(24.03)	11(10.57)	06(5.76)	06(5.76)	30(28.84)	25(24.03)	07(6.73)	25(24.03)	19(18.27)
38 to 48	18(17.30)	09(8.65)	07(6.73)	15(14.42)	-	18(17.30)	-	-	02(1.92)	19(18.27)	17(16.34)	-	17(16.34)	10(9.61)
48 to 58	06(5.76)	02(1.92)	01(0.96)	04(3.84)	-	06(5.76)	-	-	-	07(6.73)	06(5.76)	02(1.92)	05(4.80)	03(2.88)
58 -Above	08(7.69)	03(2.88)	02(1.92)	05(4.80)	-	05(4.80)	-	-	-	09(8.65)	08(7.69)	-	07(6.73)	04(3.84)
Total	89(85.57)	42(40.38)	30(28.84)	74(71.15)	21(20.19)	82(78.84)	23(22.11)	12(11.53)	18(17.30)	94(90.38)	81(77.88)	16(15.38)	78(75)	53(50.96)

Table 7 depicts the distribution of Respondents having information on Health & Hygiene. Out of total respondents (104), 89 persons (85.57%) take allopathy treatment. Table also shows that 42(40.38%) persons and 30 persons (28.84%) keep faith on homeopathy and Ayurvedic respectively where 74 persons (71.15%) like to take treatment from quack. Table reveals that in Immunisation Programme, 82 persons (78.84%) are aware of polio vaccination but regarding B.C.G, Hepatitis, DPT and Tetanus, people are less aware. 21 persons (20.19%), 23 persons (22.11%); 12 persons (11.53%) and 18 persons (17.30%) have information regarding BCG, Hepatitis, DPT, and Tetanus respectively. People belong to the age group of (38-48), (48-58) and (58-Above) have no information regarding BCG, Hepatitis, DPT and Tetanus. Table also shows that out of 104 respondents 94 persons (9038%) use drinking water, 77.88% (81) people are aware of using soap, but they are not conscious in case of using latrine. Only 16 persons (15.38%) avail latrine facility. But 78 persons (75%) people are careful about using mosquito net. Another notable matter is consumption of Alcohol. 53 persons (50.96%) consume it.

Table 8: Distribution of Respondents in respect of having awareness of Social welfare Schemes

Age Group	Indrira Awas Jojona		Jawar Rojgar Jojona		Bardhyke Bhata		Gramin Rojgar Jojona		100 Days Job		DRDP		ICDS		Self Help Group		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)			3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)			3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	12 (11.54)	5 (4.81)
18 to 28	10 (9.62)	11	5 (4.81)	3 (2.88)	4 (3.85)	6 (5.77)		2 (1.92)	12 (11.54)	12 (11.54)			9 (8.65)	4 (3.85)	4 (3.85)	3 (2.88)	44 (42.31)	43 (41.35)
28 to 38	19 (18.27)	5 (4.81)	9 (8.65)		5 (4.81)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)		22 (21.15)	4 (3.85)			16 (15.38)	3 (2.88)	8 (7.69)		80 (76.92)	15 (14.42)
38 to 48	10 (9.62)	9 (8.65)	6 (5.77)	3 (2.88)	5 (4.81)	5 (4.81)	1 (0.96)		11 (10.58)	9 (8.65)	2 (1.92)		6 (5.77)	5 (4.81)	6 (5.77)		47 (45.19)	33 (31.73)
48 to 48	5 (4.81)	1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		8 (7.69)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		6 (5.77)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		30 (28.85)	5 (4.81)
58 - Above	4 (3.85)	4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)			2 (1.92)					2 (1.92)			8 (7.69)	21 (20.19)
Total	51+31= 82(78.85%)		25+10= 35(33.65%)		18+18 = 36(34.61%)		04+02=06(5.77%)		58+27= 85(81.73%)		04+00= 04(3.85%)		40+16= 56(53.85%)		21+04= 25(24.03%)			

Table 8 represents the distribution of population having awareness on welfare schemes .It reveals that people irrespective of all age group are mostly aware of 100 days job (81.73%), Indira Awas Jojona (78.85%) and ICDS (53.85%). Persons are less aware regarding DRDP (3.85%) and Gramin Rojgar Jojona (5.77%). 35 persons (33.65%), 36 persons (34.61%) and 25 persons (24.03%) including male and female are aware about Jawhar Rojgar Jojona, Bardhyka Bhata, and Self- Help Group respectively. It is clear from the table that females are less aware regarding social welfare schemes and about DRDP no female respondent is aware.

Table 9 : Distribution of awareness of sources of information on family planning

Age Group	Known Sources														Unknown Sources	
	Neighbours		Own Family		Hospital		Panchayat		Media							
									TV		Radio		Magazine			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Below 18		1 (0.96)			2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)			1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)	
18 to 28	2 (1.92)	4 (3.85)	2 (1.92)	4 (3.85)	8 (7.69)	7 (6.73)	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	3 (2.88)	4 (3.85)	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	-	1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)	4 (3.85)
28 to 38	2 (1.92)	3 (2.88)	6 (5.77)	3 (2.88)	12	3 (2.88)	2 (1.92)		4 (3.85)		3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)		2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)
38 to 48	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	5 (4.81)	8 (7.69)	1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)	2 (1.92)	2 (1.92)	1 (0.96)				1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)
48 to 48	2 (1.92)		2 (1.92)		4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	3 (2.88)		2 (1.92)		3				1 (0.96)	
58 – Above	3 (2.88)	1 (0.96)			4 (3.85)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)		1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)	1 (0.96)			0	0
Total	12+10=22 (21.15%)		12+12=24 (23.08%)		38+14=52 (50.00%)		08+05=13 (12.05%)		12+07=19(18.27%)		11+06=17(16.35%)		03+01=04(3.85%)		08+06=14(13.46%)	
								Total	19+17+04=40(38.46%)							

Table 9 shows the distribution of respondents having sources of information on family planning. It reveals that people get information from two types of sources like, known sources and unknown sources. 50% of the total respondents (104) get information from hospital. Media like, TV. Radio and magazine etc also play a vital role to provide information on family planning. 40 persons (38.46%) of total respondents are aware of family planning through media. Only 13(12.05%) persons get information from panchayat and 22 persons (21.15%) and 24 persons (23.08%) get information from neighbours and own family respectively.14 persons (13.46%) also get information from unknown sources.

Table 10: Distribution of respondents having sources of information

Age Group	Panchayat			Block Office			Neighbour			Information Centre			Media								Total
													T.V.		Radio		News paper		Internet		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Below 18	00	00	00	00	00	00	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	00	00	00	03 (2.88%)	00	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)		01 (0.96%)	00	09 (8.65%)
18-28	08 (7.69%)	09 (8.65%)	17 (16.35%)	06 (5.77%)	03 (2.88%)	09 (8.65%)	03 (2.88%)	04 (3.85%)	07 (6.73%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	05 (4.81%)	06 (5.77%)	06 (5.77%)	06 (5.77%)	07 (6.73%)	04 (3.85%)	03 (2.88%)	02 (1.92%)	39 (37.50%)
28-38	21 (20.19%)	04 (3.85%)	25 (24.04%)	14 (13.46%)	02 (1.92%)	16 (15.38%)	04 (3.85%)	00	04 (3.85%)	00	00	00	10 (9.62%)	04 (3.85%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	06 (5.77%)	02 (1.92%)	00	00	26 (25.00%)
38-48	10 (9.62%)	05 (4.81%)	15 (14.42%)	06 (5.77%)	04 (3.85%)	10 (9.62%)	06 (5.77%)	04 (3.85%)	10 (9.62%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	04 (3.85%)	06 (5.77%)	04 (3.85%)	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	18 (17.31%)
48-58	05 (4.81%)	00	05 (4.81%)	04 (3.85%)	00	04 (3.85%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	00	00	00	06 (5.77%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	11 (10.58%)
58 & Above	06 (5.77%)	03 (2.88%)	09 (8.65%)	04 (3.85%)	02 (1.92%)	06 (5.77%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	04 (3.85%)	00	00	00	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	05 (4.81%)

Table 10 shows the sources where from the community members get their required information. Children under 18 years majorly rely on media out of which TV is more focused. Sometimes they also get news from neighbours. 18-28 years people also mostly rely on media i.e. 37.50% and very few people (1.92%) depend upon information Centre and a large percentage of people (16.35%) use Panchayat. People between the age group of 28-38 collect information from Panchayat, Block Office and media mostly and the respective percentages are 24.05%, 15.38%, 25%. 38-48 years aged people do not use internet at all but use other media such as TV, radio and newspapers. 9.62% of them discuss on the topics with neighbours and the same percentage of people use Block Office. Here, Panchayat is used by 14.42% people. The age group of 48-58 years people mostly use TV and radio media whose percentage is 10.58 and least used section is neighbour i.e. 1.92%. These people do not use any information centre, newspaper and internet at all. Old people above 58 years mostly use Panchayet (8.65%) and Block Office (5.77%).

Table 11: Distribution of Respondents Relating to Library awareness

Age group	Awareness						Unawareness			Total
	Library visited			Library non-visited						
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
Below 18	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	00	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	04 (3.85%)
18 – 28	06 (5.77%)	04 (3.85%)	10 (9.62%)	05 (4.81%)	05 (4.81%)	10 (9.62%)	01 (0.96%)	05 (4.81%)	06 (5.77%)	26 (25.00%)
28 – 38	00	00	00	10 (9.62%)	01 (0.96%)	11 (10.58%)	14 (13.46%)	07 (6.73%)	21 (20.19%)	32 (30.77%)
38 – 48	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	04 (3.85%)	02 (1.92%)	06 (5.77%)	07 (6.73%)	07 (6.73%)	14 (13.46%)	22 (21.15%)
48 – 58	03 (2.88%)	00	03 (2.88%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	04 (3.85%)	09 (8.65%)
58 & Above	00	00	00	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	05 (4.81%)	04 (3.85%)	09 (8.65%)	11 (10.58%)
Total	13 (12.50%)	05 (4.81%)	18 (17.31%)	24 (23.08%)	08 (7.69%)	32 (30.77%)	30 (28.85%)	24 (23.08%)	54 (51.92%)	104 (100%)

Table 11 represents the awareness about library of the Dhimal community. Here, children and teenagers less than 18 years are accustomed with library in a very short percentage i.e. 3.85% including both male and female. 9.62% of 18-28 years aged persons visit library. However, 5.77% people are not at all aware about library of the same age group. No one in 28-38 age group visit library and so library is non-visited by 10.58% people and 20.19% people are unaware about the library. At the age group of 38-48 years, only 2 males use to go to library and 5.77% people do not. In this age group 13.46% people are unaware about the library. 48-58 years aged 3 men (2.88%) use library and 2 men (1.92%) do not use the same. Here also, 3.85% people are unaware about the library. At the age of 58 and above no one goes to library and 8.65% people are not aware of it. Table also shows that 17.31% people visit library out of which 12% are male and 4.81% are female. Total 30.77% people of the community do not visit library out of which 23.08% are male and 7.69% are female. 51.92% people are totally unaware about the library.

Table 12: Distribution of Respondents according to Library used

Age Group	Type of Library used										Total
	School		College		Public		Club		Others		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Below 18	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	00	00	01 (0.96%)	00	03 (2.88%)
18 – 28	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	04 (3.85%)	03 (2.88%)	00	00	00	00	00	00	11 (10.58%)
28 – 38	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
38 – 48	01 (0.96%)	00	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	02 (1.92%)
48 – 58	02 (1.92%)	00	00	00	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	00	03 (2.88%)
58 & Above	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00

Table 12 shows the types of libraries visited by the concerned people. Children below 18 years mainly go to school library being students. The percentage of this is 0.96 including both male and female and the same percentage is found in other libraries. The number of the total respondents is very meagre i.e. 2.88%. 18-28 years aged candidates use both school and college libraries and the total number is 10.58%. No one use any library between the age group of 28-38 years. Only one male respondent is there in school and the same in college library at the age group of 38-48 years. 2 men are school library user and a man is public library user in 48-58 years age group. Old men or women above 58 years do not use any type of library.

Table 13: Distribution of Respondents requiring information

Age Group	Occupation			Education			Health			Politics			Entertainment			Others		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Below 18	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	00	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00	00	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	00	00	00
18 – 28	08 (7.69%)	08 (7.69%)	16 (15.38%)	08 (7.69%)	06 (5.77%)	14 (13.46%)	02 (1.92%)	06 (5.77%)	08 (7.69%)	00	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	05 (4.81%)	07 (6.73%)	00	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)
28 – 38	24 (23.08%)	04 (3.85%)	28 (%)	05 (4.81%)	02 (1.92%)	07 (6.73%)	05 (4.81%)	02 (1.92%)	07 (6.73%)	03 (2.88%)	00	03 (2.88%)	00	03 (2.88%)	03 (2.88%)	00	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)
38 – 48	13 (12.50%)	07 (6.73%)	20 (19.23%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	04 (3.85%)	06 (5.77%)	04 (3.85%)	10 (9.62%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)
48 – 58	08 (7.69%)	01 (0.96%)	09 (8.65%)	04 (3.85%)	01 (0.96%)	05 (4.81%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	00	00	00	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)
58 & Above	07 (%6.73)	02 (1.92%)	09 (8.65%)	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	03 (2.88%)	03 (2.88%)	06 (5.77%)	01 (0.96%)	00	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)	00	02 (1.92%)	00	00	00

Table 13 describes needed information by different people of this community. In the age group of below 18 years children are mostly hungry for the education related information as the percentage touches 2.88%. They are not at all interested in either politics or other information. People between 18-28 years have a wide interest in occupation, education, health and entertainment as viewed in the table and the percentages are 15.38%, 13.46%, 7.69% and 6.73% respectively. People in the age group of 28-38 years are most keen about occupation related information i.e. 26.93%. The interests of 38-48 years aged people in respect of occupation, education, health are 19.23%, 3.85% and 9.62% respectively. 48-58 years aged people are also mostly interested in information regarding occupation whose percentage is 8.56. Very few people need information about health entertainment. No one here found to be interested in politics. Most of the old people above 58 years have their queries about occupation whose rate is 8.65% and are very least are interested in politics i.e. 0.96%.

Table 14: Distribution of Respondents having awareness on indigenous Culture

Age Group	Awareness		Total	Unawareness		Total
	M	F		M	F	
Below 18	02 (1.92%)	01 (0.96%)	03 (2.88%)	01 (0.96%)	00	01 (0.96%)
18 – 28	08 (7.69%)	09 (8.65%)	17 (16.35%)	04 (3.85%)	05 (4.81%)	09 (8.65%)
28 – 38	19 (18.27%)	05 (4.81%)	24 (23.08%)	05 (4.81%)	03 (2.88%)	08 (7.69%)
38 – 48	12 (11.54%)	08 (7.69%)	20 (19.23%)	01 (0.96%)	01 (0.96%)	02 (1.92%)
48 – 58	08 (7.69%)	01 (0.96%)	09 (8.65%)	00	00	00
58 & Above	06 (5.77%)	03 (2.88%)	09 (8.65%)	07 (6.73%)	01 (0.96%)	08 (7.69%)
Total	55 (52.88%)	27 (25.96%)	82 (78.85%)	10 (9.62%)	10 (9.62%)	28 (26.92%)

Table 14 describes the idea about the indigenous culture of the Dhimal community. 2.88% people are aware about this culture at the age of below 18 years and at the age of 18-28 years, 16.35% persons are aware. It also shows that among 28-38 aged people 19.23% are aware and 19.23% are aware in the age group of 38-48 years. In the age group of 48-58 years, 8.65% persons are conscious about indigenous culture. The percentage of old people above the age of 58 years who are aware about it is 8.65%. Therefore total 78.85% people are aware about indigenous culture.

6. Conclusion & Suggestions

The necessities of demands are always closely related to the level of development and development implies social and economic improvement. The areas of information needs of the Dhimal Community have been identified in this study.

It is found that due to illiteracy and ignorance the desired information have not been focused among the Community members. Information may be provided by print media, electronic media or through information centre to cater the needs of the Community. As the majority of the Dhimals are economically poor, they should endeavour to raise their quality of life by providing information on different socio-economic activities of the world at large. On the basis of this study, the following suggestions are made:

- Illiteracy and unwillingness to higher study are the two main major problems for the development of this Community. Community peoples should be acquainted about the importance of it.

- This community is not conscious about their health and hygiene. Although most of the persons are now using the soap, mosquito net but some family members are not using those and they should aware about purified drinking water and use of latrine which can be built by collaboration with the Panchayat.

- Almost all members of the Community do not know how to use computer. Only the students of class XI, XII have some computer knowledge. A computer-training centre should be established there for social and economic development of the Community.

- The roads of the village are not well. The Government must try to increase and to initiate some scheme about the development of the road.

- Library is the backbone of our society. But there is no library and information centre in this village. The people are not so aware of the library. So there should be a good communication channel between library and community people.

- A well-equipped hospital should be situated within the community.

- As they are unconscious about their health and hygiene, the Dhimals are affected by various diseases. The Government should make the proper infrastructure and should activate sanitation related schemes to save them from these diseases.

- Most of the families depend on agriculture. At present many modern facilities and developed technologies have come into existence in the market. The Dhimals do not have any agricultural information kiosks to know the proper and important information about the agriculture to improve their economic development.

- Most of them do not possess any concrete house for living purpose, so they need proper housing facilities.

- They have no knowledge about the family planning. A proper awareness programmes about the advantages of small family planning can be organised.

So, there is ample scope of providing various information services to the Dhimal community to elevate their quality of life and their socio-economic condition. The first step of expanding the horizon of information services is to establish a Community Information Centre or Information Kiosk which may act as an information hub where the various information needs may be fulfilled. From the study it becomes crystal clear that proper information services can only help to remove the darkness of illiteracy and ignorance and also help in them to lead a better life by gradually developing their educational, social and economic condition.

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PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN CHANDANNAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AT A GLANCE : A STUDY ON THEIR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

This study highlights origin and development of the public libraries in Chandannagar Municipality. The study also tries to find out the changes in the trends of their services from the beginning to till date. Simultaneously, the study focuses on how users utilize the resources available in the library for their informational needs. A questionnaire based survey method was conducted for this purpose Data collected have been analyzed and described lucidly.

Keywords: *Origin, Development, Public Libraries, Chandannagar.*

1. Introduction

Librarianship has been firmly established as a vocation and its claim to be considered as a distinctive discipline has been irresistible. Library as a cultural institution and as a purveyor of knowledge, information and entertainment has likewise made an enduring impact on the consciousness of modern society. Librarianship also envisages knowledge of the history and development of the library- an institution which has been a part of the cultural history of the mankind throughout the ages.

This study highlights on Chandannagar, previously known as Chandernagore, located on the bank of Hooghly river in the Hooghly district in West Bengal. During the 19th century, the French established a stronghold in the city and made it their Bengal headquarters. Some of the brilliant examples of French architecture are spread all over the city. This city offered a shelter to the revolutionaries who fled from Calcutta to avoid the bloody eyes of the British. Near the Fatakgara there is the ancestral home of *Rashbehari Bose*. From here he came in to touch with '*SWADESI*' movement.

The French divided Chandannagar in two parts keeping G.T Road in the middle: **Ville Blanche**, the **White Colony** and **Ville Noir**, the **Black Colony**. In White Colony, civic amenities were provided in a planned way but the Black Colony was undeveloped. There was no cultural interaction between the French and the local community. The French were happy with their cultural and festivals while the Black Colony managed to preserve their ethnic identity without being influenced by the French culture. So, although European tourist used to spend weekend in the star hotels by the side of Ganges had no interaction with the local people. But town planning was rather modern. They also established a hotel Thaisora. Later it was turned to a college named Duplex College. Now it is known as Chandannagar College. They also established a school titled Duplex School, now known as Kanailal Vidyamandir.

2. Hypothesis

Whether Chandannagar Municipality area, a French colony was influenced by the French in the development of education, culture and other social activities or not? It may be assumed that the establishment of the public libraries at Chandannagar was under the influence of the foreigners (French).

3. Objectives

The objectives of this study are:
- To draw a picture of origin and development of public libraries in Chandannagar.
- To find out the roles and activities of the librarian in Chandannagar on professional aspects.
- To find out the problems of the libraries in respect to modernization of services.

4. Scope and Coverage

Our study encompasses four government sponsored public libraries located in Chandannagar Municipality area in Hooghly district. These four libraries are namely 'Chandannagar Pustakagar'(Chandernagore Pustakagar), 'Khalisani Pathagar', Gondalpara Sammelan Town Library' and 'Dashabhuja Sahitya Mandir'.

Our study is related to the libraries' origin and present conditions as well as the history of the librarianship profession at Chandannagar Municipality area. It covers the information regarding the collections, various services, general information and the future plan of those libraries and the development of librarianship profession as well.

5. Methodology

The historical method was used in this study to find out the historical background of Chandannagar as well as the information related to the influence of the French colonialism on the establishment of the libraries there. Based on the descriptive method a questionnaire had been prepared. The librarians were questioned regarding the general information about the libraries, the services provided to the

users, their future plans on the current perspective. The local people of famous personalities were also interviewed to collect the data. The collected data have been summarized, tabulated and analyzed accordingly. At the end, the conclusion has been drawn based on the findings.

6. Origin of Chandannagar Pustakagar (CP), Khalisani Pathagar (KP), Gondalpara Sammelan Town Library (GSTL) and Dashabhuja Sahitya Mandir (DSM)

6.1 Chandannagar Pustakagar (CP)

The 'Chandannagar Pustakagar; was started on 1st October, 1873 in the first floor of a tenanted house in the Urdibazar province of Chandannagar. The library started its journey with the interest of Jadunath Palit and his friends and then they were the only library people. By 1878, the number of members was increased to 116 with 2000 books in stock and after 15 years the number of members increased into 76. From 1912 the library began to develop. Finally on 23rd May, 1920 the library got its own destination in a big building gifted by Harihar Sett. The building is located at the side of the Grand-Trunk road in central-Chandannagar. The library building was inaugurated by Sir Haraprasad Sastri.

On 2nd February, 1951 'Chandannagar Pustakagar' was legally handed over to the Indian Government by the French Government.

Librarians were not well trained previously. Famous persons used to be librarians alternatively. But they tried their best to provide right information to the users at the right time. Now there are more trained librarians and library employees. There are much more information available for the users. Local people are happy with the services provided to them.

6.2 Khalisani Pathagar (KP)

Khalisani is located in Chandannagar Municipality area. It was a remote place alike many neglected areas of West Bengal. Educational background was not strong. Lack of education resulted in poverty, superstition, meanness. As the place was detached from developed world, there was lack of generous and improving ideas. Local people donated money and books to establish the library. In 1945 the library came into action. All the works of the library was controlled by Jagarani Samitee. Later it became an autonomous body.

In 1985,the library was undertaken by West Bengal Government, as a rural library. Now the library has got recognition of town library. The library has published a quarterly magazine, named 'Durba' for some years regularly. Now the publication has stopped.

Librarians tried heart and soul to give the library a Governmental recognition. Club members of Jagarani Samitee used to be librarians. three library employees try to satisfy informational needs of users tried very hard to disseminate knowledge in Khalisani, a remote place. Now, it is a well-established town library. Library employees try to satisfy informational needs of the readers.

6.3 Gondalpara Sammelan Town Library(GSTL)

The journey of Gondalpara Sammelan Town Library was started in the year 1923 with the name 'Ambikacharan Chattapadhyay Memorial'. Now where it is situated, there was a night school for children primarily. This library took first initiative to establish this school. Many other various works were also performed in that school; such as training of freedom fighters. Karalimohan Chattapadhyay used to provide all the information about the movements of British police. Later training was stopped, but school continued to serve local people. In this school books, little magazines were provided, for the benefit of unprivileged children. Hence this library was not registered. So this library was restarted in the house of Madanmohan Chattapadhayay, collecting all previous documents. But this too was not for a long time.

After some years local people requested the Government for help to settle the library. Sailendranath Mukhopadhyay sold the land at a minimal cost. In 1977 the construction of the building was started. At present Gondalpara Sammelan Town Library is situated in that place.

Two library employees work hard to disseminate knowledge in Gondalpara. They provide information from every Monday-Saturday, except 2nd and 4th Saturday. Users are very happy with their professional attitude.

6.4 Dashabhuja Sahitya Mandir (DSM)

The 'Dashabhuja Sahitya Mandir' was established before 91 years in 1922 on the religious day of Hindus' 'Akshay Tritiya'. The library was established centralizing the historical Dashabhuja temple located at Barasat in Chandannagar. Among the establishers of the library the names of Nonigopal Chattopadhyay, Nimai Bandopadhyay and many others are worth mentioning. In the premises of a Durga temple the library was started. The area where the library is situated now, Mrs. Kamalabala Dasi donated that land on the memory of Late Gosaidas and Krishnadas. The proposal of undertaking and registration of the library by the government was accepted on 3rd April, 1987.

Local people were very interested to establish a library, at Barasat in Chandannagar. Famous people took initiative to establish the library. Local people urged govt. To undertake the library. Now, two well trained library staff provide library services.
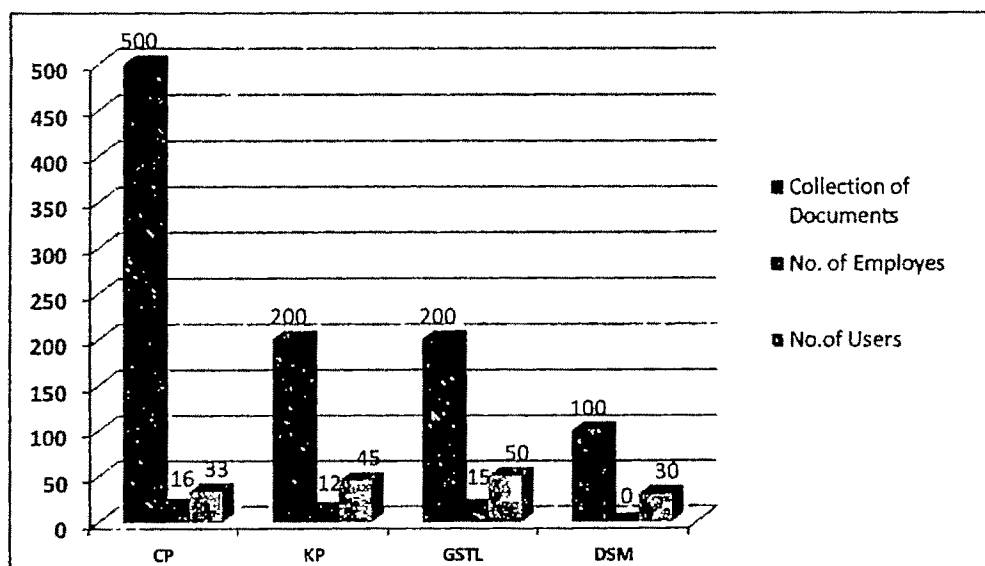
7. Analysis of Data

Table No. 1: Picture of the libraries at the time of establishment

Name of the Libraries	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Year of Establishment	1873	1945	1923	1922

Collection of Documents	500(approx.)	200(approx.)	200(approx.)	100(approx.)
No. of Employees	16(approx.) (Jadunath Palit and his friends)	12(approx.) (members of Jagarani Samitee)	15 (approx.) (local people)	NOT FOUND
No. of Users	33 (approx.)	45 (approx.)	50 (approx.)	30 (approx.)

Table No.1 shows the collection of documents, number of employees and the number of users at the time of establishment of the four libraries. It also shows that CP was established in the year 1873, which is the oldest one. The other libraries DSM, GSTL and KP were established in the years 1922, 1923 and 1945 respectively. This Table also shows that at the time of establishment the number of employees of CP, KP and GSTL were 16, 12 and 15 respectively. The data was not found in DSM. The number of users of CP, KP, GSTL and DSM libraries were 33, 45, 50 and 30 respectively at the time of establishment. This is also shown in the figure.1.
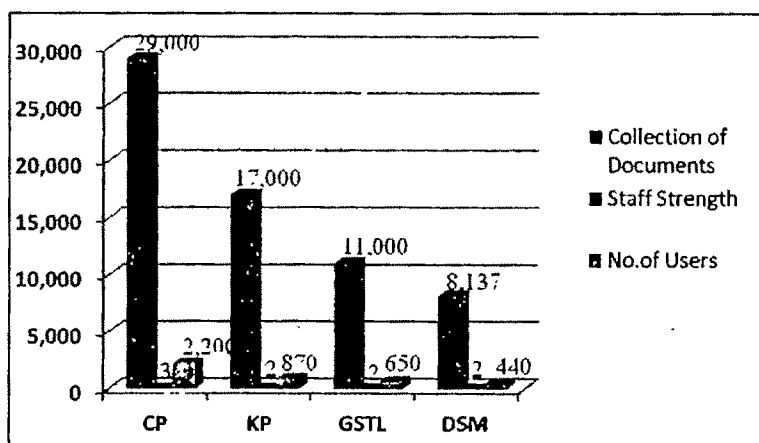

Figure No.1: Picture of the libraries at the time of establishment

Table No. 2: Picture of the libraries at the present situation

Areas \\ Name of the Libraries	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Collection of Documents	29,000(approx.)	17,000(approx.)	11,000(approx.)	8,137(approx.)
Checking on entrance and exit points	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Working Hour	2:00p.m.-8:00p.m.	1:30p.m.-7:30p.m.	1:30p.m.-7:30p.m.	1:30p.m.-7:30p.m.
Staff Strength	3 persons	2 persons	2 persons	2 persons
Total no. of users	2,200(approx.)	870(approx.)	650(approx.)	440
Mode of accessing information in the library	Closed Access	Closed Access	Closed Access	Closed Access
Whether provide digitized information	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Whether the library organizes any seminars	YES	NIL	NIL	NIL

This table shows the picture of the four libraries at the present situation. It shows present number of collection of the libraries. It shows CP showcases the most number of books i.e 29000,while KP,GSTL and DSM 17000,11000 and 8137 books respectively. This table also shows that users are neither checked at entrance and exit points in the libraries. This table describes the working hour and the staff strength of the libraries. CP has the highest number of users of 2200,while KP,GSTL and DSM have a number of 870,650,440 users respectively. The table shows all the libraries provide a closed access to the users and don't provide any digitized information also. While CP has organized seminars the others haven't done that yet. All these informations are also figured out.

Figure No.2: Picture of the libraries at the present situation

Table No. 3: Picture of the Technical Sections of the libraries

Areas \ Name of the Libraries	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Whether Accession Register is maintained or not	YES	YES	YES	YES
Classification Scheme used	DDC-18th edition	DDC-11th edition	No such classification scheme is used	DDC-11th edition
Cataloguing Code used	AACR2R	AACR2	AACR2	AACR2
Physical form of Catalogue used	Card and Book Catalogue	Card and Book Catalogue	Card and Book Catalogue	Card and Book Catalogue
Whether Digitized Catalogue is provided	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Number of books issued at a time	1book	1book	1book	1book
Charging and Discharging System followed	Browne System	Browne System	Browne System	Browne System
Book should be returned within	15days	30days	15days	15days
Amount of late fine charged	Rs. 0.50/day	Rs. 1/day	Rs. 4/day	Rs. 0.50/day
Whether Demand System is available	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

This table shows that all four libraries maintain an accession register. While CP uses the 18th edition of DDC; KP and DSM use the 11th edition of DDC; but GSTL doesn't use such a scheme. While KP, GSTL and DSM use AACR2 for cataloguing; CP uses AACR2R. All these four libraries provide book and card catalogue but none of the libraries provide digitized catalogue. This table also shows one book is issued at a time and Browne system of charging and discharging in all these libraries. Only KP issues a book for 30 days and the others for 15 days. While CP and DSM fines 50 paisa for each day, KP and GSTL fines Rs 1/- and 4/- for each day. Demand system is not available in any of these libraries. These are also figured out.
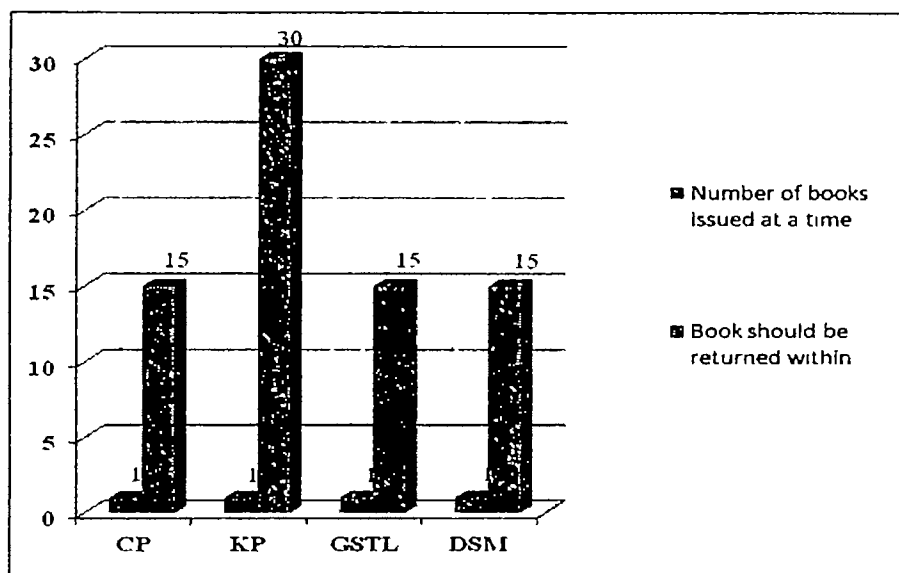
Figure No.3: Picture of the Circulation Sections of the libraries

Table No. 5: Picture of the reference services provided by the libraries

Areas / Name of the Libraries	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Reference Tools	Dictionary, encyclopedia, handbook, yearbook	Dictionary, encyclopedia, handbook, almanac, yearbook	Dictionary, encyclopedia, almanac, yearbook	Dictionary, handbook, almanac, yearbook
Journal Service	YES	YES	YES	YES
Information Desk	YES	NIL	NIL	YES
Whether Information is provided to the users through Telecommunication	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

This table shows that CP,KP,GSTL and DSM provide Dictionary, encyclopedia, handbook, yearbook to the users. The libraries provide journal service but do not provide information to the users through telecommunication. The table shows that CP and DSM have an information desk but other libraries do not has information desk.

Table No. 6: Picture of the other services of the libraries

Name of the Libraries / Areas	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Whether Reading Room facility is provided	YES	YES	YES	YES
New Arrival Display Service	List of new books and book jackets are displayed	NIL	Only list of new books	List of new books
Career guiding services are provided through	Competitive exam books, magazines, journals etc. are available	Competitive exam books, magazines, textual books are available	Competitive exam books, magazines, journals are available	Competitive exam books, magazines, journals etc. are available

This table shows that all the libraries provide a reading room and career guiding services like competitive exam books, magazines, journals etc. CP,GSTL and DSM provide new arrival service by listing the names of the new books.

Preservation :

Only CP has some activities of preservation. In CP,

- ❑ The library documents in the stack are tried to be kept intact by dusting and spraying,
- ❑ The fragile and brittle documents are laminated and bound.
- ❑ The library has also got Rs. 50,000 from National Archives.

Table No. 7: Picture of the future plans of the libraries

Name of the Libraries / Areas	CP	KP	GSTL	DSM
Any plan regarding Digitization	They have plan but also have need of staff strength and money. They got KOHA software from West Bengal Government.	They have plan but have the need of staff strength. They got money and computers from RRRLF.	They have plan but also need staffs and money. They got computers and KOHA software form, RRRLF.	They do not have any plan about digitization.
Any plan regarding Preservation	YES	NIL	YES	NIL

This table depicts the future plan of the libraries regarding digitizing. CP,KP,GSTL have plan but also have need of staff strength and money. They got KOHA also. CP and GSTL has plans for preservation but there is no such plan for preservation in KP and GSTL.

8. Conclusion

From the analysis of the study it is understood that CP, the oldest one is most updated than rest of the other three libraries in respect to their collections, services and other facilities. As the local people and the students of that locality depend on those libraries for seeking information and knowledge, so the higher authority must concentrate for further development of them, mainly in respect to digitization as well as the staff strength. Another point is, before starting our survey we expected that there must be some French influence in establishing and developing the libraries. But, after surveying we discovered that French people were not involved in this case. And it came out after analyzing the historical background of the libraries that in French period, influence of Bengali Renaissance was effective. It became more prominent that the local Bengali people took the initiative in establishing and developing the libraries.

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Awareness and Use of Electronic Resources by The Post Graduate Students of West Bengal State University : A Study

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Abstract

Universities are seeking to play a key role in the research and development process. An important element in the research process is the accessibility of information resources and services provided by libraries. Postgraduate students are key producers of research in universities, and an important element in their research process is the access to information. This paper is an attempt to study the issues like awareness and use of electronic resources, its impact on the purpose of electronic resources use and the place where the users are accessing these resources. The Random Sampling technique together with a questionnaire was used for data collection from 140 postgraduate students from West Bengal State University. The findings show that users from all these categories were using e-resources; the awareness about e-resources encourages users to use such resources to the maximum; and the users are using home and central library more for accessing the information. The impact of e-resources was visible from the decrease in number of printed journals in comparison to the increase in number of electronic journals. The paper records the reasons why Post graduate students use electronic information resources are, research activity, paper writing for publication, and preparing for projects It suggests further for an improvement in the access facilities with high Internet speed and subscription to more e-resources by the University Library. The present study also attempts to encounter different problems faced by the students during accessing e-resources.

Keywords: *e-resources, P.G. students, awareness, search engines, library portals, UGC-Infonet.*

Introduction

Electronic resources are an integral part of libraries assisting the users in learning, teaching and research. The advent and proliferation of e-resources has changed the approaches of liaison activities and collection development especially in university libraries. The concept of the library has changed and revised its role due to the impact of e-resources. Thus, e-resources have placed themselves at the top priority in almost all academic libraries, Sharma et al. (2011).

In recent years, universities have started paying greater attention to research. Universities do this by developing appropriate policies, making funds and facilities available for research, and encouraging their staff and students to do research. In many postgraduate programmes at universities, students are required to carry out a research project and submit a report as a pre-requisite for completing their degree. Faculty members are also required to do research themselves, take on more postgraduate students, and are assessed based on the outputs of their research. This has led to researchers making greater demands for access to information and on the quality of information provided (Singh 2007). Access to information through Internet has changed the role of libraries. Libraries now have both printed document as well as electronic information resources in their collection. The electronic documents can be stored, accessed, and delivered as and when required; therefore the services of libraries are not confined within the four walls but are integrated into local, regional, national, and international networks. It is common knowledge that virtually all scholarly and academic journals, electronic databases, online library catalogues, grey literature and other relevant scholarly materials in all fields of knowledge are now accessible on the internet.

Review of Literatures

In the year 2009, Kaur and Verma conducted a study on Use of Electronic Information Resources: A case Study of Thapar University. This paper is an attempt to study the issues like use of electronic information resources, its impact on the collection of print and electronic journals its awareness among the users, and the places where the users are accessing these resources. The study revealed that the impact of e-resources was visible from the decrease in number of printed journals in comparison to the increase in number of electronic journals. The use of e-journals has increased manifold. The printed material is being quickly replaced by the electronic resources.

In the year 2012, Hadagali, et al Survey on Ues of Electronic Resources by Post-Graduate Students in Different University of Karnataka State. The purpose of the study is to determine the knowledge and use of e-resources; users' skills in handling e-resources; to reveal the factors which influence the effective use of e-resources; problems faced by the respondents and to provide effective solutions to the problems encountered. The study found that the information content in e-resources is better than that of print versions; most of the users access e-resources to search bibliographical information. Lack of availability of personal computers and internet bandwidth are the two main problems faced by

users. The study recommends forming a consortium at the state level to add substantial e-resources to the existing collections in the university libraries.

In the year 2013, Chandran conducted a study on Use and User Perception of Electronic Information Resources: A case study of Siva Institute of Frontier Technology, India .The study covers the impact of electronic resources on students and faculty in their academic pursuit.

In the year 2013, Jogan conducted a study on Access, Awareness And Use of Electronic Resources by Post Graduate Students in Gulberg University. This study examines postgraduate students' views on the access, awareness and usage in facilitating their research and their satisfaction with the sources and services currently provided. The findings shows that the majority (90.1%) of respondents acknowledged the important role of library in facilitating research, and 72.5% of the respondents were satisfied with the current role being played by the libraries. The findings will be useful to academic libraries in providing better services to postgraduate students for their research.

In the year 2015, Krishnamurthy and Awari conducted a study on Use and Impact of Electronic Information Resources among PG Students of UAS, Dharwad. In the present study an attempt has been made to study the use of electronic information resources (EIRs) which include internet resources, web resources, CD-ROM databases, e-journals/databases in general and their impact on library users, further examines in detail the extent of awareness of EIRs among PG students at University of Agriculture Sciences (UAS), Dharwad.

Objectives

1. To know the use and awareness of electronic resources among the students;
2. To analyze the purpose of electronic resources use;
3. To examine the frequency of usage of electronic resources by the users;
4. Which place is used more for accessing the electronic information;
5. To identify the problems faced by the PG students while accessing and using e-resources; and
6. To suggests the possible and available method to improve the use of e-resource in the library.

Scope and Coverage

This study is only confined to the Post Graduates students of West Bengal State University pursuing their master degree in different disciplines.

Methodology

The work is mainly based on survey method that consists of the structured questionnaire. Data are collected personally by visiting the PG departments of the West Bengal State University by distributed

140 questionnaire of which 84 questionnaire given to male students and 56 questionnaires given to female students of Arts, Science, Commerce discipline who use electronic resources.

Results and Discussion

Table No. 1: Discipline Wise Distribution.

Discipline	No of Students	Percentage
Arts	33	23.57%
Science	60	42.86%
Commerce	47	33.57%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 1 shows the discipline wise distribution that used Electronic Resources. It is found that out of 140 students 33 are arts students, 60 science and 47 are commerce students who are pursuing postgraduate in their respective discipline.

Table No. 2: Gender Wise Distribution.

Gender	No. of Students	Percentage
Male	84	60%
Female	56	40%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 2 shows the gender wise distribution of the students which shows that 84 nos. (i.e.60%) are male students and 56 nos. (i.e.40%) are female students, who were found using electronic resources.

Table No. 3: Awareness of Electronic Resources.

Awareness	No. of Students	Percentage
Yes	140	100%
No	00	00.00%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 3 shows the awareness of electronic resources which shows that all the students 140 nos. (i.e.100%) are aware and use e-resources.

Table No. 4: Awareness about UGC-infonet Consortia.

Awareness	No. of Students	Percentage
Yes	68	48.57%
No	72	51.43%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 4 UGC-Infonet is a versatile e-resources consortium in the field of social sciences, pure sciences subscribed by the WBSU, West Bengal. Table reveals that 68 nos. (i.e.48.57%) have aware about the e-resources and 72 nos. (i.e.51.43%) are unaware of e-resources.

Table No. 5: Sources of e-resources used

Sources	No. of Students	Percentage
UGC-Infonet	68	48.57%
Internet resources	33	23.57%
Open access resources	28	20.00%
CD/DVD	11	7.86%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 5 shows the Sources of e-resources used. It also shows that the majority of the students i.e. 68 (48.57%) access e-resources from UGC-Infonet. About 33 (23.57%) students access e-resources from Internet resources. 28 (20.00%) of the students access e-resources from open access sources, whereas about 11 (7.86%) students access e-resources from CD/DVD.

Table No. 6: Methods of searching e-resources

Methods of search	No. of Students	Percentage
Through search engine	37	26.43%
Through websites	25	17.86%
Through library portals	78	55.71%
Total	140	100%

Table No. 6 The e-resources can be searched in different ways, such as through websites of online databases/journals/publishers, search engines, subject gateways, library portals, etc. the study made an attempt to know the method adopt by the respondents to search e-resources and the result has been analysed in **table 6.**

Table No. 7: Time Spent by the PG students for the use of Electronic Resources

Time Spent	No. of respondents	Percentage
0-1 hour	73	52%
1-2 hour	32	23%
2-3 hour	24	17%
Above 4 hour	11	8%
Total	140	100%

The above **table no 7** reveals that 52% of student's use e-resources for 0-1 hour, 23% of them use 1-2 hours, 17% use 2-3 hours and only 8% of them use above 4 hours.

Table No. 8: Frequency of use of Electronic Resources

Frequency	No. of respondents	Percentage
Daily	62	44.28%
Weekly	32	22.86%
Fortnightly	27	19.29%
Monthly	13	9.28%
Occasionally	06	4.29%
Total	140	100

It is general understanding that frequency of users use of electronic resources depends upon the resources, Organization, maintenance and value added services that it provides. **Table 8** shows that the majority of respondents, i.e. 62 (44.28%) use the electronic resources daily. About 32 (22.86%) respondents use the electronic resources in a week, around 27 (19.29%) respondents use the electronic resources in a fortnight, about 13 (9.28%) respondents use the electronic resources in a month and about 6 (4.29%) respondents use the electronic resources occasionally.

Table No. 9: Sources of Information about the Electronic Resources

Sources	No. of respondents	Percentage
WWW/Internet	35	25%
Library Professionals	28	20%
Teachers	42	30%
Orientation Lectures	12	8.57%
User Training/ Work sops	16	11.43%
Social networking websites	07	5%
Total	140	100

Table No. 9 shows the Sources of Information about the Electronic Resources. It also shows that the highest percentage of students get information about the e-resources from the Teachers (30%), followed by getting information about the e-resources from Internet (25%).20% of the students get information from library professionals.11.43% of the students they came to know about the e-resources through workshops and user training. Orientation lectures provided by the e-resources were helpful in spreading awareness to 8.57% of the students and least no of user 5% to get information through Social networking websites.

Table No. 10: Place of access Electronic Resources.

Place	No. of Students	Percentage
Cyber Cafe	22	15.71%
Department	24	17.14%
Home	44	31.43%
Central Library	34	24.29%
Department library	16	11.43%
Total	140	100

Table No. 10 shows the Place of access Electronic Resources. It also shows that the majority of the students i.e. 44 (31.43%) access e-resources at their home. About 34 (24.29%) students access e-resources at Central Library. 24 (17.14%) of the students access e-resources at their respective departments, whereas about 22 (15.71%) students access e-resources at Cyber Café and 16 (11.43%) students access from the Department library.

Table No. 11: Purpose of using e-resources by the PG students

Purpose	No. of Students	Percentage
To write articles	30	21.43%
To prepare study notes	28	20.00%
To prepare for projects	42	30.00%
To prepare for seminars or conferences	16	11.43%
To write book reviews	09	6.43%
To obtain general knowledge	15	10.71%
Total	140	100

Table No. 11 shows the Purpose of using e-resources by the PG students. It also shows that 42 (30%) students used electronic resources to prepare for projects, followed by 30 students (21.43%) to write articles, 16 students (11.43%) to prepare for seminars or conference, 28 students (20%) to prepare study notes, and 15 students (11.43%) to obtain general knowledge. Only 9 students (6.43%) of students used electronic resources to write book reviews.

Table No. 12: Problems & Constraints in seeking Information

Types of problems & constraints	No. of Students	Percentage
Materials are not available	34	24.29%
Incomplete information materials	14	10.00%
Difficult in finding relevant information	17	12.14%
Slow Internet Access	11	7.85%
Overload of Information on Internet	27	19.29%
Long time to download information	24	17.14%
Lack of attitudes of library staff	13	9.29%
Total	140	100%

The users while using electronic resources they are face various types of problems. From **Table No. 12** it is evident that 34 (24.29%) students feel that materials are not available properly which they are want. 14 (10.00%) students admitted that maximum information material are incomplete. from the data it has been found that 17(12.14%) are facing difficulty while finding relevant information. 11(7.85%) admitted that accessing information from internet is very slow. It reveals from the table that 27(19.29%) scholars are facing problems due to overload of information on internet. 24(17.14%) research scholars expressed that it has been taken long time to download relevant information through internet. 13(9.24%) research scholars admitted that they are facing lots of problems while seeking information due to lack of attitudes of library staff members.

Table No. 13: Advantages of Electronic Resources

Advantages	No. of Students	Percentage
Multiple choices of formats	18	12.86%
Provides faster & reliable communication	24	17.14%
Multi User Access	14	10.00%
Users sitting on their desktop can access e-resources	20	14.29%
Access to a wide range of information	28	20.00%
Easier access to inf. Within a few minutes	36	25.71%
Total	140	100%

Table 13 gives a clear picture of the advantages of electronic information resources over traditional resources. It reveals that the majority of students, 36 (25.71%) indicate easier access to information

within a few minutes; whereas 28 (20.00%) students indicate access to a wide range of information. 24 (17.14%) students indicate provides faster & reliable communication. Access to a wide range of information, those users who sitting on their desktop, it can be inferred from the analysis of data that the majority of respondents indicate that the main advantages of electronic information resources are multiple choices of formats and providing faster and reliable information, it also can access electronic information resources and those for whom it is multi user access.

Conclusion

The current trends in electronic environment suggest a complete revolution in the status of collection development. As Information Technology (IT) advances, the emphasis of academic libraries has focused upon the intrinsic excellence of collection development suitable to e- resources. Present study reveals that a large number of users have started using electronic journal. The users access e-resources more from the home and central library as compared to the department. The use of print journals has decrease because information is easily available to the users through internet. Library should subscribe to e-resources keeping in view the priorities and preferences of users. Announcements should be done by the library about the availability of new e-resources or additions of new databases for user of the library. Library should provide the facilities for the user to get familiar with e-resources subscribed by the library; this can be done by the presentations organized by the concerned publishers or vendors. Special training programs should be organized for students for the maximum use of e-resources so that users can adequately trace relevant information. The library should also organize orientation programs every year.

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BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY OF JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL MEDIA AND LIBRARY SCIENCE : 2010 TO 2015

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Abstract

Bibliometrics is the discipline where quantitative methods were employed to probe scientific communication process by measuring and analyzing various aspects of written documents. It helps to monitor growth of literature and patterns of research. This paper presents a bibliometric analysis of the journal titled "A Journal of Educational Media and Library Science (JoEMLS)" for the time during between the year2010 to 2015. The analysis covers mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, average number of references per articles, forms of documents cited, ranking of contributors, place & institution wise distribution of article etc.

Keywords: *Bibliometric Study, of Journal of Educational Media and Library Science.*

Introduction

The term bibliometrics was first defined by Pritchard (1996) as "the application of mathematical and statistical methods to books and other media". It involves the analysis of a set of publications characterized by bibliographic variables such as the author(s), the place of publication, the associated subject keywords, and the citations. It is a quantitative analysis of any discipline. For this purpose mathematical and statistical techniques are used to study the documents measure the publication pattern. This presents study covers Journal of Educational Media and Library Science which is published by the Tamkang University Press and co-published with the Department of Information & Library Science (DILS) and Chueh Sheng Memorial Library.

About the Source Journal

The JoEMLS is an Open Access (OA) Dual, double-blind reviewed and international scholarly journal dedicated to making accessible the results of research across a wide range of Information & Library-

related disciplines. The JoEMLS invites manuscripts for a professional information & library audience that report empirical, historical, and philosophical research with implications for librarianship or that explores theoretical and practical aspects of the field. Peer-reviewed articles are devoted to studies regarding the field of library science, information science and IT, the book trade and publishing. Subjects on instructional technology and information communication, pertaining to librarianship are also appreciated.

Review of Literature

These following literatures are concern for this study :

Kalyane & Sen (1995) analyzed 498 research articles published during 1984 to 1992 in journal of Oilseeds Research. They found the space allotment of full length papers, author's productivity and authorship pattern, prominent contributors and bradfordian distribution of citation etc.

Jena (2006) carried out a study of the Indian journal of Fibre and Textile research 1996-2004. Nine volume (21 to 29) containing 35 issued during the time period was taken for the study. He showed the trend of publication such as distribution of article, citations, pattern of authorship & citation, geographical distribution of authors.

Thanuskodi (2010) stated a Bibliometric Study on Journal of Social Sciences and the study covered research output performance of social scientists on social science subjects. The analysis covered mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, subject wise distribution of articles, average number of references per articles, forms of documents cited, year wise distribution of cited journals etc.

Tsay (2011) conducted a bibliometric analysis on the Journal of Information Science from 1998 t0 2008. He studied about the type of document, total references that are cited, cited journal in JIS, subject coverage of the articles etc.

Thanuskodi (2011) studied a bibliometric study on Library Herald Journal for the period between the years 2006 to 2010. The analysis coveedr mainly the number of articles, authorship pattern, subject wise distribution of articles, average number of references per articles, forms of documents cited, year wise distribution of cited journals.

Thanuskodi & Umamaheswari (2013) conducted a bibliometric study on Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management. 197 articles made from volume 5 in 2007 to volume 9 in 2011 for this study and presented the authorship pattern, year wise distribution of article, ranking of leading contributors, geographical, subject and page wise distribution of articles.

Bansal (2013) stated a bibliometric analysis on DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology including volume 21 to 32 between the year 2001 to 2012. It was found that 391 papers were published during the period of study. The study paper presented a bibliometric analysis of the journal to assess the pattern of growth of the research output, pattern of authorship and geographic

distribution of output, subjects coverage and citation analysis of the references attached to the papers and change in them over two different periods (2001- 2006) and (2007-2012).

Objectives

following are the objectives of this study :

- To identify the number of contributions and the growth of articles published in the journal during 2010 to 2015.
- To examine the pattern of authorship.
- To examine the geographical distribution of articles as well as the contribution of institutions in this journal.
- To ranking most productive authors who contributed in JoEMLS.
- To examine the Cited pattern of these articles.
- To examine the references cited in these articles.
- To examine the length of articles published in JoEMLS in these six years.

Methodology

Scope and coverage: this study covers Journal of Educational Media and Library Science and its 114 articles published between 2010 to 2015. The citation of the articles covers till 31ˢᵗ May 2016.

Methods used: The source journal is an open access journal and is available on the journal website (http://joemls.dils.tku.edu.tw/index.php?lang=en). The data for the study was downloaded from this for 6 years from volume 47 (2010) to volume 52 (2015). The data consists of year of publication with its volume number, name of the author with their institution affiliations and its geographical location, total count of authors, length of the articles in terms of the number of pages, number of references and the article citation. The data was downloaded on MS Excel sheets and then analyzed to achieve the objectives mentioned above. For Citation analysis two tools were used i.e. Google Scholar and Scopus database.

Data Analysis
Table 1: Year wise distribution of articles

Year	Number of Publication	Percentage
2010	20	17.54
2011	21	18.42
2012	23	20.18
2013	17	14.91
2014	18	15.79
2015	15	13.16
Total	114	100

Total 114 articles were covered in this study during this six year (2010 to 2015). Here the highest number of articles presents in the year 2012 with 23 papers (20%). After that the second position is in the year 2011 with 21 papers followed by 2010 and 2014.

Table 2: Authorship pattern of articles

Authorship Pattern	Number of Article	Percentage
Single	37	32.46
Dual	55	48.25
Triple	18	15.78
More than Three	4	3.51
Total	**114**	**100**

In authorship pattern analysis maximum of the works were done by dual authorship including 55 papers. Single authorship pattern is next for 37 article and 18 papers conducted by triple authorship.

Table 3: Ranking of most productive authors

Author	Number of Article	Percentage	Ranking
Chiu, J.Y.	18	15.79	1
Shieh, J.C.	7	6.14	2
Chen, L.C.	6	5.26	3
Chiu, M.H.P.	4	3.51	4
Chang, S.J.L.	4	3.51	4
Sheih, C.S.M.	4	3.51	4
Chang, C.C.	3	2.63	5
Ke, H.R.	3	2.63	5
Lin, S.C.	3	2.63	5
Chen, H.H.	3	2.63	5
Lin, W.Y.C.	3	2.63	5
Tsay, M.Y.	3	2.63	5
Tseng, Y.H.	3	2.63	5

In the list of most productive author only 5 authors were consider for this study. It showed that Chiu, J.Y. is the most productive author with 18 articles. Three and seven authors took place the rank of 4th and 5th.

Table 4: Institute wise ranking

	Number of Article	Percentage	Ranking
National Taiwan Normal University	30	26.32	1
National Taiwan University	18	15.79	2
Tamkang University	13	11.40	3
Fu Jen Catholic University	9	7.89	4
National Chengchi University	9	7.89	4
National Chiayi University	8	7.02	5
Shih Hsin University	5	4.39	6
National Chiao Tung University Taiwan	4	3.51	7
National University of Tainan Taiwan	4	3.51	7
National Chung Hsing University	3	2.63	8
Others	11	9.65	

Mainly three Institutions dominate in this list they are National Taiwan Normal University, National Taiwan University and Tamkang University. More than 50% articles have been contributed by these three institutions. In this ranking list other five institutes contributed 36% of total articles.

Table 5: Place wise ranking of articles

	Number of Article	Percentage	Ranking
Taiwan	107	90.35	1
China	3	2.63	2
United States	2	1.75	3
Germany	1	0.88	4
Mongolia	1	0.88	4
Thailand	1	0.88	4
Uganda	1	0.88	4
United Kingdom	1	0.88	4

Maximum articles were published from Taiwn (94%), because major three institutions were situated in Taiwan. China is associated with 3 and USA associated with 2 articles only. Country like Germany, Mongial, Thailand, and UK were associated with only article respectively.

Table 6: Distribution of article according their citation (Year wise)

Year	Number of Article	Number of Article Cited	Number of Citation
2010	20	9	19
2011	21	5	12
2012	23	4	6
2013	17	1	1
2014	18	2	2
2015	15	0	0
Total	114	21	40

This table shows the year wise cited pattern. 21 articles have been cited in total 40 articles. Cited pattern of this journal is downgrading. Three year i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015 get only 3 articles were cited.

Table 7: Distribution of article according their references (Year wise)

Year	Number of Article	Number of References	Percentage	Average
2010	20	593	13.05	29.65
2011	21	788	17.35	37.52
2012	23	808	17.78	35.13
2013	17	773	17.02	45.47
2014	18	818	18	45.44
2015	15	763	16.80	50.87
Total	114	4543	100	-

References of articles are increased yearly. Total 4543 references were cited in 114 articles in an average of almost 40 references per article. In case of percentage of references all years are almost equal, but average references were increasing year wise.

Table 8: Length of the papers

Number of Pages	Number of articles	Percentage
Below 10	4	3.51
10 to 20	10	8.77
20 to 30	51	44.75
30 to 40	41	35.96
30 to 40	6	5.26
Above 40	2	1.75
Total	114	100

From this table it is clear that most of the articles are lengthy in nature. Most of the articles are 20 to 30 pages followed by 30 to 40 pages.

Conclusion

The popularity in the adaptation of bibliometric techniques in various disciplines stimulated amazing growth of literature on bibliometrics and its related areas. Bibliometric study of a single journal provides a portrait of the concerned journal by indicating the quality, maturity and productivity of the journal. It informs about the research orientation that the journal supports to disseminate and its influence on author's choice as a channel to communicate or retrieve information for their research needs (Zainab, et al, 2009). In this respect, JoEMLS from 2010 to 2015 was tested with requisite bibliometric measures. The findings obtained from the study of authorship pattern, authorship productivity pattern, citation pattern, length of the articles etc. Moreover, the study showed that, this journal is proved to be one of the most popular open access electronic journals in the field of Information & Library-related disciplines by displaying a good number of citations of most leading journals. JoEMLS is presumed to be banking on in the field with exciting research prospects in all areas of library and information science. There has been a constant increase in rate of publication of articles since the year 2010 to 2015 that symbolizes the strong trend of its publication pattern and the global demand for this journal. It is hoped that JoEMLS will seek more scholarly articles or research work from more countries in future days.

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Dynamic Role of Health Librarian in the Present Society

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Abstract

A library preserves knowledge and makes information accessible to its users. In case of health library, they provide current up to date health information to its clientele mainly doctors. The role of librarian is changing day by day. They provide extension services for supporting the health sectors. They also take part in various health promotion activities. Now-a-days they even participate in the rallies, health awareness camps etc. For delivery of health information, library staff mainly relies on formal source of information. With the help of new and advanced technology, librarians are delivering the right information to the right user at the right time.

Keywords: Health librarian, health information, extension services, formal source of communication, informal source of communication

1. Introduction

The library and information science plays a dominant role in catering to the educational, occupational and recreational requirements of the community. In one word, library is a medium of social change. A library not only collects, but also organises, preserves knowledge and makes it accessible. In case of health library, they provide current up to date health information to its clientele mainly doctors.

The role of librarian is changing day by day. These changes are evolutionary. Libraries are adding new, digital resources and services while maintaining most of the old, tradition resources and services. Apart from the stakeholders of the documents and repositories of information, the extension service rendered by the librarians is no way less than the formal, customised service rendered in his day-to-day work. To make libraries familiar, extension services should be arranged so that the people may get maximum benefit from it. They also take part in various health promotion activities. Now-a-days they even participate in the rallies, health awareness camps etc.

At the outset of the 21st century, librarians not only support the faculty and students in research and education but also have the ability to expand to deliver authentic and reliable health information for any emergency purpose. To cope up with these, librarians act as a facilitator between user-library staff administrator and plan accordingly, to face emerging changes in the libraries.

This paper describes the new arena of health library as well as changing role of health librarians in the modern society.

2. Health librarian as a Facilitator:

Over the last few years, the role of health librarian has become increasingly complex. They are not only health information assimilators, but also generators of health information. Now-a-days, they not only serve doctors, physicians, nurses and medical students, but also take part in the medical support services in the hospitals. According to growing consumer demand for health information, the librarian should provide the highest level of services ensuring right information to the right person at a right time. In the new information age, the function & role of librarians will be as outlined by Church (1996) as –

1. Consultant
2. Analyst
3. Facilitator
4. Trainer
5. Product Planner
6. Corporate Knowledge Manager

According to Keith Coriell (2011), as a good facilitator are-

- Compromising rather than dictating
- Asking others for their opinions
- Adopting to changing situation
- Building relationship rather than being task- oriented
- Effectively using skills to involve participation and creativity
- Being knowledgeable about client issues
- Understanding and dealing with group dynamics.

As a good facilitator, a librarian can promote various awareness programs in the form of extension services.

3. Forms of Extension Services:

Extension services are undertaken in two ways

1. Internal extension services which are arranged within the libraries.

2. The other one are external extension services which are arranged outside the libraries.

The extension service may take following form –

a) To Organise Reading Circles:
A library may organise reading circles; where they can discuss about day-to-day activities, women health etc.

b) To Offer Meeting Place for Learned Persons:
Health related research scholar is associated to discuss the actual scenario and implication of their research plan. The medical library offers a suitable place for meeting of those scholars. The library provides them necessary facilities, and as a result, the number of users in the library increases. This will lead to social and personal contact between the scholars and the library staffs. This will enable library to bring the members of learned organisations and books together to satisfy the third law of library science.

c) To Arrange Public Lectures & Talks:
Sometimes library provide space for seminars or public lectures. They discuss about current awareness program on health.

d) To Organise Special Weak:
They may organise cancer week, breast cancer day.

e) To Organise Library Exhibition:
At the time of public lectures andseminars, a book exhibition on the relevant topic may be organised. It should be well organised and located at a suitable place, so that it attracts everybody who comes to attend the program.

f) To Organise Other Documents:
In organising book exhibitions, not only books but also other kinds of documents (such as charts, magazines, manuscripts, graphs, microfilms, CD, records etc.) can be displayed.

Sometimes medical library may arrange a drama, a puppet show, a music concert, a film show on breast cancer awareness.The objective of these programs is to convert a library into a social cultural and intellectual centre.

4. Preferred Sources of Health information by the Library Staff

Information need of the health library staff is totally different from others. They need information to maintain the updated materials on latest research and developments in the health sector. They help health professionals (doctors) by providing them with information they need for treatment of patients, teaching students, guiding researchers or writing books or research papers. To carry out the study of medical students and researchers, library staffs help a lot. So information need of the library staffs varies according to the end-user. They also provide assistance to create awareness programs.

Depending on the various information need, the sources of information regarding library staff members are also changing. The selection of library documents (books, journals, e- resources, compact discs) is purchased according to the library committee, which consists of head of various department and the faculty members. To meet up the users' demand, the library staffs mainly depend on views of subject experts, fellow scientists, internet, and other e–resources and also by attending workshops and by consulting with health librarians.From discussions with the library staff members, it is clear that they prefer the view of subject experts for selection of resources. Most of them prefer the suggestions from fellow scientists.

Another study was done on the basis of information source used in the library.Here information sources are divided into two categories –

- Formal source of information
- Information source of information

Library staff noticed that users mainly depend on formal source of information. The staff members of medical college libraries in Kolkata showed an increasing trend in both formal and informal source of information. Also electronic document is equally preferred to print document.

The formal source of information is ranked according to the choice of various health librarians in Kolkata are as follows-

	Formal Source of Information	Rank
PRINT DOCUMENT	Medical Books	5
	Journals	5
	Manuscripts	2
	Abstracts & Indexes	2
	Bibliographies	1
	Publisher's Catalogue	-
	Library Catalogue	2
	Research Report	4
	Thesis /Dissertation	5
	Publication from Ministry of Health	5
	WHO Report	5
	Subject Dictionaries	5
	Handbooks / Manual	4
	Annual Review Publication	4

	Conference Seminar Proceeding	5
E- Resource	Current News Paper (Electronic Form)	2
	Online Material Data Base	5
	Websites	5

Table 1: Formal Sources of Information by the Library Staff

Here maximum score obtained is 5 and minimum score is 1. According to their views, bibliography is the least preferred source of information and they do not consult with publishers' catalogue frequently. They prefer medical books, journals, WHO reports as the important source of information.

They also suggest few informal sources of information for their ready reference. They rank those sources with a maximum value 5 and minimum value 1.

Informal Sources of Information	Rank
Personal Contacts	4
Oral Discussion	4
Unpublished conference	3
paper	

Table 2: Informal Sources of Information by the Library Staff

The library staffs of various medical colleges more or less agreed thatpersonal contacts and oral discussion with the doctors are beneficial for them. But still they prefer formal sources over informal sources of health information.

5. Conclusion

Information is disseminated in different ways and presented in a systematic and organized manner. With the vast and upcoming new information, the user community should be enriched, but before thatit should be organized·in such a manner that this new and updated information is able to reach the users. So the use of new technology and role of librarian are important for deriving the various source of information and delivering the right health information to the right user at the right time.

The health information varies in different print and electronic formats. In this respect, Internet also plays a vital role. Internet provides access to an enormous number of databases distributed around the world. The information technology improves the storage and retrieval of health information quickly to the health professionals, patients and others. At the same time, various health librarians can play an enormous role in distributing health information and awareness program.

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